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The Proverbs Series Conclusion

The Burden

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Proverbs 31:1-9 ¹These are the words of King Lemuel—the burden that his mother taught him: ²What shall I say, O my son? What, O son of my womb? What, O son of my vows? ³Do not spend your strength on women or your vigor on those who ruin kings. ⁴It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to crave strong drink, ⁵lest they drink and forget what is decreed, depriving all the oppressed of justice. ⁶Give strong drink to one who is perishing, and wine to the bitter in soul. ⁷Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more. ⁸Open your mouth for those with no voice, for the cause of all the dispossessed. ⁹Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the poor and needy. (BSB)

Who was King Lemuel?

His name means **devoted** to God.

I. What can we learn from this passage?

- A. He was greatly **influenced** by his mother. V. 1
- B. His mother took her **position** as mother seriously. V. 2
- C. She warned her son to stay **pure**. V. 3
- D. She warned him against the **pitfalls** of alcohol. V. 4-6
- E. She counseled him on the **benefits** of alcohol. V. 7
- F. She encouraged him to have a heart for those **without** power. V. 8-9

II. How can we apply these truths to our life?

- A. Be a person who honors your **parents**.
- B. Be a person who honors your **vows**.
- C. Be a person who shares your **story** with others.
- D. Implement the five guidelines for all **moral** choices.
 - 1. Is this activity **beneficial**?
 - 2. Is this activity **constructive**?
 - 3. Is this activity **addictive**?
 - 4. Does this activity cause **weaker** believers to stumble?
 - 5. Can I do this activity with a clear **conscience**?
- E. Be a person who shares their **power** with those who are disenfranchised.