

A FAITHFUL MOTHER IN AN UNFRIENDLY CULTURE

Proverbs 31:1-9

King Lemuel is not mentioned elsewhere in the Bible or history; some think Lemuel is a nickname for _____
Verse 1 can be translated, "The words of King Lemuel of _____ which his mother taught him."
His mother may have been an _____ princess married to a foreign prince—a godly mother in an ungodly land

I. HER FAITHFULNESS BEFORE BIRTH

A. Her Vows

- 1) Her story may have like _____ --she prayed desperately for a child she dedicated to God
- 2) A princess was expected to conceive a _____ and she would have had rivals among numerous wives

B. His Name

"Lemuel" means " _____ to God": the foreign king permitted her to name her son for her God

II. HER FAITHFULNESS IN CHILDHOOD

A. She Knew Her Place and Kept It—by the _____ of Her Child

She did not publish these words; rather her son did, indicating how she exercised her _____

B. She Forged a Bond of _____ with Her Child

- 1) A mother has a natural bond with her child which she should use to hold her child on the _____ path
- 2) Lemuel loved her in return: he was willing to "own" her and her _____ publicly; so should we

III. HER FAITHFULNESS IN LATER YEARS

Many believe this mother confronted her son in his later teen years, perhaps when he was going _____
Eph. 6:4 places 2 duties on parents: training and admonition— _____ confronting to bring about change

A. The First Admonition: Sexual _____

Sexual immorality costs any person his or her "strength": three applications from Proverbs 5:8-11

- 1) Immorality will steal your _____ --the word that is used in Prov. 31 to describe the virtuous woman
- 2) Immorality can cost you your _____ : it often leads to situations that are financially ruinous
- 3) Immorality can cost you your _____ : it can cause incurable diseases and even death

B. The Second Admonition: _____

- 1) She recommends a legitimate use for strong drink: _____ use
- 2) But in the normal course of life she recommends _____
 - a) A king must not become intoxicated, forget the law and pervert justice: WE are _____ and priests
 - b) We must counsel children never to _____ God's law in an intoxicated state and misrepresent Him

C. The Third Admonition: Compassion for the _____

- 1) For those who cannot speak for themselves: in our culture it is best applied to the _____
- 2) For those appointed to die: we should teach our children compassion for those headed to _____
- 3) For the poor and _____
 - a) With welfare, food stamps and Medicaid, _____ in our country meet the Biblical definition of poor
 - b) Around the world, many are truly destitute and we must train our children to _____ about them