Proverbs: God's Book of Wisdom - Proverbs 31 - Part 1

PROVERB: A short sentence often repeated, expressing a well known **truth or common fact**, ascertained by experience or observation; **a maxim of wisdom**.
PRINCIPLE: A general truth;

Proverbs 31:1 The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:

1. **Whose words are these?**

2. **Who taught King Lemuel? What did she teach?**

3. **What is an oracle?**

ORACLE: 1. Denotes the communications, revelations or **messages delivered by God** to prophets. Divine oracles, meaning the Scriptures. 2. **Pronouncement** (a formal, official, or authoritative statement, declaration, opinion, or judgment made with certainty by someone in a position of authority)

Proverbs 31:2 What are you doing, my son? What are you doing, son of my womb? What are you doing, son of my vows?

4. **v2a: What are you _____, my son?**

   A) saying B) doing C) believing

5. **Have you ever asked the question,** *"What are you doing, my son (child)"***? Why?**

Pro 31:2 …What are you doing, son of my womb? What are you doing, son of my vows?

6. **What are you doing, son of my _____?**

7. **What are you doing, son of my _____?**

8. **Why is the mother asking** *"What are you doing",* **so many times? Purpose?**

Pro 31:3 Do not give your strength to women, your ways to that which destroy kings.

9. **v3a: Do not give your strength to _____?**

   A) evil B) puppies C) women

10. **What does it mean,** *"Do not give your strength to women***? How do men do this?**

11. **v3b: Do not give your ways to that which _____ kings?**

A) worship B) love C) destroy

12. What does it mean, *"Do not give your ways to that which destroy kings***?**

13. What is that which destroy kings? How?

14. The mother wants to protect her son from what? Why?

Proverbs 31:4

a. It is not for kings, Lemuel, It is not for kings to drink wine,
b. Or for rulers to desire intoxicating drink,

15. It is not for kings to drink _____? Why?

16. It is not for rulers to desire what kind of drink?

17. What is an intoxicating drink?

INTOXICATION: Having qualities that produce **inebriation** (Drunkenness; intoxication)

18. Besides God telling us, why is it bad to be drunk?

19. Why do some people believe being drunk is okay?

Proverbs 31:5 Otherwise they will drink and forget the law…,

20. What causes people to forget about God and His law? Only being drunkenness?

Pro 31:5 Otherwise they will drink & forget the law & pervert the justice of all the afflicted.

21. Drunkenness can cause kings to pervert what? For whom?

Pro 31:6-7 Give intoxicating drink to one who is perishing, And wine to those who are bitter of heart. Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

22. v6a: **Give intoxicating drink to one who is _____,**

A) perishing B) laughing C) walking

23. Why do this? *"Give intoxicating drink to one who is perishing".* **What other drugs?**

Pro 31:6-7 Give intoxicating drink to one who is perishing, And wine to those who are bitter of heart…

24. Give intoxicating drink to one who is perishing & wine to those who are _____ of heart.

25. What does it mean to be bitter of heart? Why give them intoxicating drink?

BITTER HEART: People experiencing deep emotional anguish, heavy grief, acute trauma, or profound despair.

Pro 31:7a Let him [bitter of heart] drink and forget his poverty, And remember his trouble no more.

26. v7a: **Let him drink and forget his _____…**

A) poverty B) wife C) kids D) parents

Pro 31:7b Let him [bitter of heart] drink and forget his poverty, And remember his _____ no more.

27. v7b: **And remember his _____ no more.**

A) trouble B) in-laws C) boss D) bills

Pro 31:8 Open your mouth for the people who cannot speak, seek justice for all those on the verge of destruction.

28. v8a: **Open your mouth for the people who cannot _____.**

A) speak B) love C) fly D) lie

29. What does this mean: *"Open your mouth for the people who cannot speak"***?**

30. Name some types of people who cannot speak for themselves (not heard)?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Pro 31:8 …seek justice for all those on the verge of destruction.

31. v8b: **…seek justice for all those on the verge of _____.**

A) destruction B) marriage C) salvation D) deportation

32. What does this mean: *"seek justice for all those on the verge of destruction"***? How?**

33. If God said do it, how do we obey this command?

34. Name some people on the verge of destruction (justice for)? Why are?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Pro 31:9 Speak up, judge righteously, & defend the rights of the afflicted & oppressed.

35. v9a: **Speak up, judge _____.**

A) destruction B) marriage C) salvation D) deportation

36. What does it mean to *"Speak up"***? Why?**

Pro 31:9 Speak up, judge righteously, & defend the rights of the afflicted & oppressed.

37. What does it mean to *"Judge Righteously"***? Why? How?**

Pro 31:9 …defend the rights of the afflicted & oppressed.

38. v9c: _____ **the rights of the afflicted & oppressed.**

A) remove B) defend C) diminish D) reduce

39. Why defend the rights of the afflicted & oppressed?

Ps 140:12 I know that the Lord will maintain The cause of the afflicted, & justice for the poor.

40. Who are the afflicted & oppressed? What rights?

41. How do you defend them (afflicted & oppressed)?

Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to **do justly**, To **love mercy**, And to **walk humbly** with your God?
Matthew 22:39 'You shall **love your neighbor as yourself**.'