

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 2

### Proverbs 31:1-7 Lesson #15

\*\*INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Proverbs before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures are from the New King James Version.

1-2 **The words of King Lemuel**, the utterance which **his mother taught him**: “What, my son? And **what, son of my womb? And what, son of my vows?**”

•**Proverbs 4:3-5** “When I was my father’s son, tender and the \_\_\_\_\_ one in the sight of my \_\_\_\_\_, he also taught me, and said to me: “Let your heart retain my words; \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Get \_\_\_\_\_! Get \_\_\_\_\_! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.”

**Definition: “The words of King Lemuel”** – There is no King Lemuel in the list of kings of Israel and Judah, so it is thought that this was a **special nickname for Solomon** by which his mother called him. **In Hebrew, Lemuel means “Belonging to God.”** Remember, Solomon’s mother was **Bathsheba, whose first son died as a baby, because of hers and David’s SIN of adultery.** As far as Scripture tells us, Solomon was her only living son, and she was very protective of him and loved him very much. In verses 1-9, Solomon repeats his mother’s advice and warnings, although, **later in life, Solomon did not obey or heed her warnings**, but turned away from God because of his desire for many women.

•**II Samuel 12:13-14 & 24** “Then \_\_\_\_\_ said to Nathan, ‘I have \_\_\_\_\_ against the \_\_\_\_\_.’ And Nathan said to David, ‘The \_\_\_\_\_ also has \_\_\_\_\_ your sin; you shall not \_\_\_\_\_. However, because \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ you have \_\_\_\_\_ great \_\_\_\_\_ to the enemies of the Lord to \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ also who is \_\_\_\_\_ to you shall surely \_\_\_\_\_.’” (Verse 24) “Then David comforted Bathsheba his \_\_\_\_\_, and he went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a \_\_\_\_\_, and he called his name \_\_\_\_\_. And the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ him.”

**Definition: “Son of my womb? And what, SON of my VOWS?”** – Just as Hannah, Samuel’s mother, **made a VOW to dedicate her son to the Lord**, it is believed that Bathsheba also made a VOW and dedicated Solomon to the Lord when he was born.

•**I Samuel 1:11** “Then she made a \_\_\_\_\_ and said, ‘O Lord of Hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a \_\_\_\_\_, then I will \_\_\_\_\_ him to the \_\_\_\_\_ all the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_.’”

3 **Do NOT give your strength to women**, nor your ways to **that which DESTROYS KINGS.**

•**Proverbs 6:23-29** “For the \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_, and the law is \_\_\_\_\_; reproofs of instruction are the way of \_\_\_\_\_; to \_\_\_\_\_ you from the \_\_\_\_\_, from the flattering tongue of a seductress. Do \_\_\_\_\_ after her \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_; nor let her \_\_\_\_\_ you with her eyelids. For by means of a \_\_\_\_\_ a man is reduced to a crust of bread; and an \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ upon his precious \_\_\_\_\_. Can a man take \_\_\_\_\_ to his bosom, and his

clothes not be \_\_\_\_\_? Can one walk on \_\_\_\_\_ coals, and his feet not be \_\_\_\_\_? So is he who goes in to his neighbor's \_\_\_\_\_; whoever touches her shall \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "Can a man take FIRE to his bosom, and his clothes not be BURNED?" – This is another WARNING of the CONSEQUENCES of sin, and in this case, ADULTERY.** Just as you can't carry fire and hug it close to your chest without getting burned, you can't keep committing sin without suffering the consequences. God's word warns us that if we sow to our sinful, fleshly nature, **we will reap corruption**, which is **sin, confusion, emotional turmoil, broken families, financial problems, disease, and even early physical death.** Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). Some Christians think they can live any old way they want to, **continually sowing to their flesh**, because they know God will forgive their sins if they belong to Jesus Christ, and they will still go to heaven. That's true, if they are truly saved, but a life of sin and living in the flesh, with its consequences of corruption, may make the journey to heaven very difficult. Jesus did not just die on the cross to give us fire insurance from hell, but also to give us **an ABUNDANT LIFE here on earth** (John 10:10). We will not experience that abundant life if we continue to wallow in sin and disobedience to God, and sow seeds of corruption to our flesh.

Whether the seeds are seeds of **alcoholism, drug addiction, overeating, sexual sins** (ADULTERY is ANY sexual activity other than between a man and woman married to each other), **anxiety and fear, bitterness and anger, or something else, they all bring "fruit after their own kind" in the form of disease, early death, severe consequences such as prison in some cases, broken relationships, dysfunctional families, and the like.**

•**Proverbs 6:32** "Whoever commits \_\_\_\_\_ with a woman lacks understanding; he who does so \_\_\_\_\_ his own \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "To keep you from the EVIL WOMAN, from the flattering TONGUE of a SEDUCTRESS" – To SEDUCE means to tempt someone to do evil or wrongdoing, especially to persuade someone to engage in SINFUL sexual activity. A SEDUCTRESS would be a female who SEDUCES someone. A SEDUCER would be the term for a man, and SEDUCTRESS for a woman.** There are plenty of men out there who are seducing young women, but **Solomon here is speaking to his SON, so that is why the emphasis is on the "evil woman" rather than a man.**

•**Proverbs 7:5-18** "That they may \_\_\_\_\_ you from the \_\_\_\_\_ woman, from the \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ with here words. For at the window of my house I looked through my lattice, and saw among the \_\_\_\_\_, I perceived among the \_\_\_\_\_, a young \_\_\_\_\_ devoid of (lacking) \_\_\_\_\_, passing along the street near \_\_\_\_\_ corner; and he took the \_\_\_\_\_ to her \_\_\_\_\_ in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night. And there a \_\_\_\_\_ met him, with the attire of a \_\_\_\_\_ and a crafty heart. She was loud and \_\_\_\_\_, her feet would not stay at home. At times she was outside, at times in the open square, \_\_\_\_\_ at every corner. So she \_\_\_\_\_ him and \_\_\_\_\_ him; with an impudent face she said to him, 'I have peace offerings with me; today I have paid my vows. So I came out to meet you, diligently to seek your face, and I have found you. I have spread my \_\_\_\_\_ with tapestry, colored coverings of Egyptian linen. I have \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take out fill of \_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_; let us \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with \_\_\_\_\_.'" "

**Definition: "Do NOT LUST after her beauty in your HEART" – Here we see in the Old Testament almost the same thing that Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus said that the thought in your mind or heart was just as bad as the actual deed - attitude sins are just as bad as the**

carrying out of the actual sinful act.

• **Matthew 5:27-28** “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit \_\_\_\_\_,’ but I say to you that whoever \_\_\_\_\_ at a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ has already committed \_\_\_\_\_ with her in his \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “That which DESTROYS KINGS”** – God gave Solomon great WISDOM, but later In Solomon’s life, he turned away from God and **nearly destroyed his own life**. He did REPENT later and return to the Lord, but only by the grace of God was he not completely destroyed by his idolatry and **disobeying God by marrying MANY foreign women**. Solomon chose by his own free will to exceed the limits of the great wisdom that God gave him, in order **to experience the harsh, painful side of life first hand**. Although Solomon did come back to the Lord late in life, he regretted his many years of disobedience, and tries to warn us not to do what he did. In Ecclesiastes 12:1 & 13 he says, “Remember also your Creator **in the days of your YOUTH**, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, ‘I have no delight in them.’” “The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: **fear God and keep His commandments**, because this applies to every person.”

• **I Kings 11:1-4** “Now King \_\_\_\_\_ loved many \_\_\_\_\_ women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the \_\_\_\_\_ had said to the sons of Israel, ‘You shall \_\_\_\_\_ associate with them, neither shall they associate with you, for \_\_\_\_\_ will surely \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ away after their gods.’ Solomon held fast to these in \_\_\_\_\_. And he had seven hundred \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and three hundred \_\_\_\_\_, and his wives \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_. For it came about when Solomon was old, his \_\_\_\_\_ turned his \_\_\_\_\_ away after other gods; and his \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ wholly (completely) devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.”

• **I Kings 11:6** “Solomon did what was \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the \_\_\_\_\_, and did \_\_\_\_\_ follow the Lord fully, as did his father David.”

• **I Kings 11:9** “So the Lord was \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_, because his \_\_\_\_\_ was turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should \_\_\_\_\_ go after \_\_\_\_\_; but he did not \_\_\_\_\_ what the \_\_\_\_\_ had \_\_\_\_\_.”

4-7 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, **it is not for KINGS to drink WINE, nor for princes INTOXICATING DRINK**; lest they drink and FORGET the LAW, and pervert the JUSTICE of all the AFFLICTED. **Give STRONG DRINK to him 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.

• **Ecclesiastes 10:17** “\_\_\_\_\_ are you, O land, when your \_\_\_\_\_ is the son of nobles, and your \_\_\_\_\_ feast at the proper time – for strength and \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “It is not for KINGS to drink WINE, nor for princes INTOXICATING DRINK”** – For an actual king or prince of a country, to drink too much and become drunken, it would mean he could not rule his country well. **When David was king of Israel**, in I Samuel 18:14 it says, “And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him.” This means David didn’t just fly off the handle and react to circumstances and people by his raw emotions, or in anger, but he weighed the circumstances and situations, and acted according to God’s word and wisdom. In other

words, he made good choices before he acted, and it caused people to respect him. **He couldn't have done that if he was DRUNK or intoxicated in any way! We don't make good choices or act WISELY when under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating substance!** In the book of Revelation, it tells us that **WE, as believers in Jesus Christ, are made KINGS** in God's kingdom, so this warning applies to EVERY Christian.

• **Revelation 5:9-10** "And they sang a new song, saying: 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have \_\_\_\_\_ us to \_\_\_\_\_ by Your \_\_\_\_\_ out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ and priests to our \_\_\_\_\_; and we shall \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth.'"

• **I Samuel 18:14** "And \_\_\_\_\_ behaved himself \_\_\_\_\_ in all his ways; and the Lord was with him."

• **I Samuel 18:5** "And \_\_\_\_\_ went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself \_\_\_\_\_; and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of all the people...."

**Definition: "Give STRONG DRINK to him who is perishing"** – In God's word, "perishing" means going to HELL. If a person has **REJECTED Christ and is going to hell anyway, then they had might as well do it DRUNK**, but for **those of us who have ETERNAL LIFE in Jesus Christ**, there is NO situation where we should be drunk or intoxicated.

• **Ephesians 5:17-18** "Therefore do not be \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ what the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is. And do \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ with wine, in which is dissipation; but be \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "DISSIPATION"& "UNWISE"** — Dissipation means "to use up foolishly", being **WASTEFUL**, aimless living, "extravagant **pursuit of pleasure**", which is **NOT WISE** use of our time here on earth.

• **Isaiah 5:11** "\_\_\_\_\_ to those who rise early in the morning, that they may follow \_\_\_\_\_; who \_\_\_\_\_ until night, till \_\_\_\_\_ inflames them!"

• **Romans 13:12-13** "The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of \_\_\_\_\_, and let us put on the armor of \_\_\_\_\_. Let us walk properly, as in the day, \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, not in licentiousness and lewdness, not in strife and envy, but put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make \_\_\_\_\_ provision for the \_\_\_\_\_, to fulfill its \_\_\_\_\_."

• **Proverbs 23:31-32** "Do not \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ when it is red, when it \_\_\_\_\_ in the cup, when it swirls round \_\_\_\_\_; at the last it bites like a \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ like a viper (snake)."

• **Proverbs 20:1** "\_\_\_\_\_ is a mocker, \_\_\_\_\_ drink arouses brawling (fighting), and whoever is \_\_\_\_\_ by it is \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "Filled with the Spirit"** — Paul contrasts BEING DRUNK with BEING FILLED with the Spirit. INSTEAD of being drunk, which is to be "**UNDER the INFLUENCE**" of alcohol (or some other substance), we are to be "**UNDER the INFLUENCE**", or **CONTROLLED BY the Holy Spirit**. In other Scriptures, it is also called "walking in the Spirit", "letting the word of Christ dwell in you", and "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ." This is NOT a ONE-TIME experience, but a continuous YIELDING of ourselves to the Holy Spirit's control in our lives. The literal translation of the Greek is

“keep being filled” with the Spirit.