

2023.10.31 Family Worship lesson in “the Proverb of the day”

Proverbs 31:4–7

“Alcohol, Wisely (Biblically) Considered”

- 4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel,
It is not for kings to drink wine,
Nor for princes intoxicating drink;
- 5 Lest they drink and forget the law,
And pervert the justice of all the afflicted.
- 6 Give strong drink to him who is perishing,
And wine to those who are bitter of heart.
- 7 Let him drink and forget his poverty,
And remember his misery no more.

Pastor teaches his family a selection from “the Proverb of the day.” In these four verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us to employ God’s good gifts in a manner that responds rightly to Him in the situations that His providence assigns to us.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Proverbs 31 verses 4 through 7. These are God's words. That is not for kings. Let me well. That is not for kings to drink wine, nor for princes. Intoxicating drink. Unless 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. Then sends this reading of gods inspired and inherent word.

These four verses, we have instruction. For proper use of All of god's creation. Remembering that. Even the greatest king. And the Porest popper. Both have god as their creator. Is in his providence that they are in the position that they are in. And they are rightly to respond to.

God's gift and god's assignment to them. For a king or a prince. God's gift and god's assignment is in part. That the care of others is in charged to them. Is. It's a charged or entrusted and i said in charged.

The care of others is entrusted to them. And so, they must remember. The law. Especially god's law is meant here. They must maintain justice. Especially, because There are those who are afflicted. There are those who others have sinned against we live in a sinful world. Since it's very important that a king punished, those who do evil The king's reward, the good.

And a king. Make good decisions at prince make right? And right righteous. Decisions. Between people. So they need to be able to remember as clearly as possible. And, To think and consider. It's carefully and sharply as possible. Kings, do not have. The same. Prerogative ability. Right ability. To relax.

As other people do. And so they must always have their wits about. It's kind of like the priest. Remember The priest wasn't allowed to drink where In the tabernacle. He had to pay very careful attention to his duties. He couldn't let one thought slip. He couldn't relax for a moment.

This should warn those who want to go to worship and just relax or just be It's a good way to get yourself killed. Remember when we read about the priests and the alcohol, while it just happened to Leviticus 10. Just for offering. Worship that the lord had not commanded.

They never buy you were executed by god. Because to worship in the wrong way. Is to despise god to treat him as common. When we should be treating him as holy. To treat him as light. When we should be treating him as glorious. And so in that situation, God said, the priests and the tabernacle should not drink.

Should be able to think, sharply and clearly and carefully every moment. They're on duty. Well, a king also. Proverbs 31 verse 4 is. On duty. And so we should. Recognize that there are times in our lives when we most need to have our wits about us. Thank god. There are times in our lives when we may and ought to relax.

His designed us, that In such a way that If? We're on duty all the time and we never relaxed. It would go very poorly for us, physically, mentally and so forth. And so perhaps it'd be a good idea for a king to have a vizier like a Joseph. For a Daniel you could hand things off to for a while and then you can Drink.

But we see that the alcohol is a gift from god. And that our position. And our particular task that we're doing at a particular time as a gift from god. And so, we should use them the right way. You know, what else comes in god's providence? The time when you are coming close to death, Or the time when something.

Very painful has happened. Or a time in which you have been brought to poverty. Or to misery. All of these are described in verses 6 and 7. And one of the wrong ways. Of responding to this things is To be consumed. With fear of death. Or depression over our poverty.

Or bitterness of our heart. Or our misery, we should not be consumed with those things. In fact, we should take our grief to the lord. And one of the things that the lord, Has given us grief. And who has given us. Right knowledge, that we ought to be able to bring or are we ought to bring our grief to the lord?

Yeah, one of the other things that he has given us is something that helps us. To. Not be consumed with the sharpness of the pain. In order to bring our grief properly to the lord. Now, there are some people here. Who would really abuse? Verse 7. And the words forget, or Remember no more.

Is not talking about. Forgetting or remembering no more of the way we do with intellectual, or mental ability to recall Remember, we're reading the bible. And the language of Forgetting or remembering. As language of acting upon, The memory of someone like god remembering Noah in the ark. That god forgotten that there was a man in an ark top of the world.

Of course he had. But he was gonna act upon. Noah he was going to act upon his promises whenever it said he remembered his promises. And here. We are not to act upon. Are bitterness. And our poverty and our misery. We're to act upon god. And so there's a right use of alcohol.

The forgetting. And forgetting, everything, remembering nothing. You know, common use of that language, that would not be a right use of alcohol. That would not help us. Remember. And not forget the lord. And his providence. And his comforting us. But there is A. Mental. Uh, pain relief way. Where you could take a dose?

Of the alcohol, that helps you unwind a little bit. And relax a little bit. Something you wouldn't want to do on the throne of justice. Something you wouldn't want to do serving the tabernacle But something when you are tempted to be consumed with your bitterness, The lord has given alcohol as a good gift for.

Is given that as it is, given it as a good gift. For many other things, doesn't, For celebration, and For health. Courage, even and Fellowship. Many other things. We just some We just say recently. Wine to make his heart. Glad In psalm 104, didn't we? But i want you guys.

To read and hear this. About alcohol. So that You can think of it in a right way and not think that the alcohol is bad. Or that every use of it is bad. Or. That prohibiting any use of it is good. Which would be to make up rule. That god hasn't made up as if our rules will be stronger and better than his and that would be very wicked to do.

I want you to. Be thinking throughout your life, not just with alcohol. But of course, with all of god's good gifts. The right use of them. That helps us respond rightly to him. And serve. Others rightly, as well. And, To maintain our own heart and mind rightly. This was good.

Good council. Good bible council. Holy spirit, given council. That king lanewell's mother. Gave him. And the holy spirit who gave it, has preserved it for us as well. Let's pray.

Our gracious. God and our heavenly father, we thank you for filling your word. With good instruction. We pray. Lord that You would give us according to the righteousness of jesus. We thank you that he has perfectly obeyed and been perfectly righteous. In our place. We thank you that he has poured out, your spirit and his spirit.

Take to make us to be like himself. To pray that you would make us to be like him. In the right use of alcohol. The right use of all your good gifts. That we would not turn them into waves. By which we sin. Make good use of them. For honoring you.

And how we think and what we speak. And what we do. And so, for the lord, jesus is sick. And for The sake of the love in, which you gave him. Pray that your spirit would bless to us this portion of your word. For, we ask it in jesus's name.