

New Years Sermon: The Struggles of Royalty

Proverbs 31:1-9

Timothy Lethbridge

1. Verses 1-3 The destruction of immorality:

Exegetical Point: The mother of Lemuel instructs her son to not prioritize or shift the way he walks towards illicit relationships with women or to having a harem.

Homiletical Point: Grossness (immorality) of the heart leads to destruction whereas God wants us to be pure to have life this new year.

2. Verses 4-7 The distraction of drunkenness

Exegetical Point: Excessive drinking is not for a ruler as they have a high responsibility that drink will distract him from, the care of the poor.

Homiletical Point: Excessive drink will distract us from being the type of Kingdom influence that God requires and God wants us to limit distractions to thrive this new year.

3. Verses 8-9 The desire to bully

Exegetical Point: Kings are to not do evil to those who cannot defend themselves but also to defend them justly.

Homiletical Point: God wants us to not bully those with weakness but to bear each others burdens like Christ did this new year.

Main Point: This new years God is calling us to thrive in the abundant live He has for us by replacing impurity of heart with purity, drunkenness and distraction with wholeheartedness, and bullying with bearing burdens.