

June 16 Answers

- 1) The sayings of Agur and the words of King Lemuel. Agur was a keen **observer** of the world and its ways, and he delighted in pondering the many fascinating aspects of God's creation. We should appreciate his **humble** attitude (Prov 30:2). He teaches us that those who know much are aware of *how **little** they truly know*. Agur's sayings end with a call to humility: "If you have been foolish, exalting yourself, or if you have been devising evil, put your **hand** on your mouth. For pressing milk produces curds, pressing the nose produces blood, and pressing anger produces strife" (Prov 30:32–33). King Lemuel shared the advice his **mother** gave him about "wine, women and song." After hearing Solomon expound on the dangers of strange women and strong drink, it's interesting to hear a woman agree with him on both points. 'Kings,' she said, 'should be concerned with giving **justice** to their people, not with wine and strong drink.' This teaches us that we must put the welfare of those under our authority **before** our own wants and desires. Proverbs concludes with an **acrostic** poem that paints an inspiring picture of the **noble** wife. She is a woman of **character**, wisdom, and compassion. She is **thrifty**, industrious, self-sacrificing, **generous**, thoughtful, hard-working, and strong. She is a loving wife and mother, and she is praised by her husband and her children. She stands as a **guide** to men (this is the kind of woman you should marry) and a **beacon** for women (this is the kind of woman you should strive to be). She is a stirring reminder that true greatness is found only through the **fear** of the LORD!