

Resource: Berean Standard Bible

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Berean Standard Bible

Proverbs 1:1

¹ These are the proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel,

Proverbs 1:2

² for gaining wisdom and discipline, for comprehending words of insight,

Proverbs 1:3

³ and for receiving instruction in wise living and in righteousness, justice, and equity.

Proverbs 1:4

⁴ To impart prudence to the simple and knowledge and discretion to the young,

Proverbs 1:5

⁵ let the wise listen and gain instruction, and the discerning acquire wise counsel

Proverbs 1:6

⁶ by understanding the proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.

Proverbs 1:7

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 1:8

⁸ Listen, my son, to your father's instruction, and do not forsake the teaching of your mother.

Proverbs 1:9

⁹ For they are a garland of grace on your head and a pendant around your neck.

Proverbs 1:10

¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you, do not yield to them.

Proverbs 1:11

¹¹ If they say, "Come along, let us lie in wait for blood, let us ambush the innocent without cause,

Proverbs 1:12

¹² let us swallow them alive like Sheol, and whole like those descending into the Pit.

Proverbs 1:13

¹³ We will find all manner of precious goods; we will fill our houses with plunder.

Proverbs 1:14

¹⁴ Throw in your lot with us; let us all share one purse"—

Proverbs 1:15

¹⁵ my son, do not walk the road with them or set foot upon their path.

Proverbs 1:16

¹⁶ For their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed blood.

Proverbs 1:17

¹⁷ How futile it is to spread the net where any bird can see it!

Proverbs 1:18

¹⁸ But they lie in wait for their own blood; they ambush their own lives.

Proverbs 1:19

¹⁹ Such is the fate of all who are greedy, whose unjust gain takes the lives of its possessors.

Proverbs 1:20

²⁰ Wisdom calls out in the street, she lifts her voice in the square;

Proverbs 1:21

²¹ in the main concourse she cries aloud, at the city gates she makes her speech:

Proverbs 1:22

²² "How long, O simple ones, will you love your simple ways? How long will scoffers delight in their scorn and fools hate knowledge?

Proverbs 1:23

²³ If you had repented at my rebuke, then surely I would have poured out my spirit on you; I would have made my words known to you.

Proverbs 1:24

²⁴ Because you refused my call, and no one took my outstretched hand,

Proverbs 1:25

²⁵ because you neglected all my counsel, and wanted none of my correction,

Proverbs 1:26

²⁶ in turn I will mock your calamity; I will sneer when terror strikes you,

Proverbs 1:27

²⁷ when your dread comes like a storm, and your destruction like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish overwhelm you.

Proverbs 1:28

²⁸ Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will earnestly seek me, but will not find me.

Proverbs 1:29

²⁹ For they hated knowledge and chose not to fear the LORD.

Proverbs 1:30

³⁰ They accepted none of my counsel; they despised all my reproof.

Proverbs 1:31

³¹ So they will eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

Proverbs 1:32

³² For the waywardness of the simple will slay them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them.

Proverbs 1:33

³³ But whoever listens to me will dwell in safety, secure from the fear of evil.”

Proverbs 2:1

¹ My son, if you accept my words and hide my commandments within you,

Proverbs 2:2

² if you incline your ear to wisdom and direct your heart to understanding,

Proverbs 2:3

³ if you truly call out to insight and lift your voice to understanding,

Proverbs 2:4

⁴ if you seek it like silver and search it out like hidden treasure,

Proverbs 2:5

⁵ then you will discern the fear of the LORD and discover the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2:6

⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:7

⁷ He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk with integrity,

Proverbs 2:8

⁸ to guard the paths of justice and protect the way of His saints.

Proverbs 2:9

⁹ Then you will discern righteousness and justice and equity—every good path.

Proverbs 2:10

¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will delight your soul.

Proverbs 2:11

¹¹ Discretion will watch over you, and understanding will guard you,

Proverbs 2:12

¹² to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perversity,

Proverbs 2:13

¹³ from those who leave the straight paths to walk in the ways of darkness,

Proverbs 2:14

¹⁴ from those who enjoy doing evil and rejoice in the twistedness of evil,

Proverbs 2:15

¹⁵ whose paths are crooked and whose ways are devious.

Proverbs 2:16

¹⁶ It will rescue you from the forbidden woman, from the stranger with seductive words

Proverbs 2:17

¹⁷ who abandons the partner of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God.

Proverbs 2:18

¹⁸ For her house sinks down to death, and her tracks to the departed spirits.

Proverbs 2:19

¹⁹ None who go to her return or negotiate the paths of life.

Proverbs 2:20

²⁰ So you will follow in the ways of the good, and keep to the paths of the righteous.

Proverbs 2:21

²¹ For the upright will inhabit the land, and the blameless will remain in it;

Proverbs 2:22

²² but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the unfaithful will be uprooted.

Proverbs 3:1

¹ My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments;

Proverbs 3:2

² for they will add length to your days, years and peace to your life.

Proverbs 3:3

³ Never let loving devotion or faithfulness leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

Proverbs 3:4

⁴ Then you will find favor and high regard in the sight of God and man.

Proverbs 3:5

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

Proverbs 3:6

⁶ in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:7

⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

Proverbs 3:8

⁸ This will bring healing to your body and refreshment to your bones.

Proverbs 3:9

⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your crops;

Proverbs 3:10

¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

Proverbs 3:11

¹¹ My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD, and do not loathe His rebuke;

Proverbs 3:12

¹² for the LORD disciplines the one He loves, as does a father the son in whom he delights.

Proverbs 3:13

¹³ Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who acquires understanding,

Proverbs 3:14

¹⁴ for she is more profitable than silver, and her gain is better than fine gold.

Proverbs 3:15

¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire compares with her.

Proverbs 3:16

¹⁶ Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.

Proverbs 3:17

¹⁷ All her ways are pleasant, and all her paths are peaceful.

Proverbs 3:18

¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who embrace her, and those who lay hold of her are blessed.

Proverbs 3:19

¹⁹ The LORD founded the earth by wisdom and established the heavens by understanding.

Proverbs 3:20

²⁰ By His knowledge the watery depths were broken open, and the clouds dripped with dew.

Proverbs 3:21

²¹ My son, do not lose sight of this: Preserve sound judgment and discernment.

Proverbs 3:22

²² They will be life to your soul and adornment to your neck.

Proverbs 3:23

²³ Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble.

Proverbs 3:24

²⁴ When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you rest, your sleep will be sweet.

Proverbs 3:25

²⁵ Do not fear sudden danger or the ruin that overtakes the wicked,

Proverbs 3:26

²⁶ for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from the snare.

Proverbs 3:27

²⁷ Do not withhold good from the deserving when it is within your power to act.

Proverbs 3:28

²⁸ Do not tell your neighbor, “Come back tomorrow and I will provide”—when you already have the means.

Proverbs 3:29

²⁹ Do not devise evil against your neighbor, for he trustfully dwells beside you.

Proverbs 3:30

³⁰ Do not accuse a man without cause, when he has done you no harm.

Proverbs 3:31

³¹ Do not envy a violent man or choose any of his ways;

Proverbs 3:32

³² for the LORD detests the perverse, but He is a friend to the upright.

Proverbs 3:33

³³ The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous.

Proverbs 3:34

³⁴ He mocks the mockers, but gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 3:35

³⁵ The wise will inherit honor, but fools are held up to shame.

Proverbs 4:1

¹ Listen, my sons, to a father’s instruction; pay attention and gain understanding.

Proverbs 4:2

² For I give you sound teaching; do not abandon my directive.

Proverbs 4:3

³ When I was a son to my father, tender and the only child of my mother,

Proverbs 4:4

⁴ he taught me and said, “Let your heart lay hold of my words; keep my commands and you will live.

Proverbs 4:5

⁵ Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn from them.

Proverbs 4:6

⁶ Do not forsake wisdom, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will guard you.

Proverbs 4:7

⁷ Wisdom is supreme; so acquire wisdom. And whatever you may acquire, gain understanding.

Proverbs 4:8

⁸ Prize her, and she will exalt you; if you embrace her, she will honor you.

Proverbs 4:9

⁹ She will set a garland of grace on your head; she will present you with a crown of beauty.”

Proverbs 4:10

¹⁰ Listen, my son, and receive my words, and the years of your life will be many.

Proverbs 4:11

¹¹ I will guide you in the way of wisdom; I will lead you on straight paths.

Proverbs 4:12

¹² When you walk, your steps will not be impeded; when you run, you will not stumble.

Proverbs 4:13

¹³ Hold on to instruction; do not let go. Guard it, for it is your life.

Proverbs 4:14

¹⁴ Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evildoers.

Proverbs 4:15

¹⁵ Avoid it; do not travel on it. Turn from it and pass on by.

Proverbs 4:16

¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they do evil; they are deprived of slumber until they make someone fall.

Proverbs 4:17

¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence.

Proverbs 4:18

¹⁸ The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining brighter and brighter until midday.

Proverbs 4:19

¹⁹ But the way of the wicked is like the darkest gloom; they do not know what makes them stumble.

Proverbs 4:20

²⁰ My son, pay attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings.

Proverbs 4:21

²¹ Do not lose sight of them; keep them within your heart.

Proverbs 4:22

²² For they are life to those who find them, and health to the whole body.

Proverbs 4:23

²³ Guard your heart with all diligence, for from it flow springs of life.

Proverbs 4:24

²⁴ Put away deception from your mouth; keep your lips from perverse speech.

Proverbs 4:25

²⁵ Let your eyes look forward; fix your gaze straight ahead.

Proverbs 4:26

²⁶ Make a level path for your feet, and all your ways will be sure.

Proverbs 4:27

²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your feet away from evil.

Proverbs 5:1

¹ My son, pay attention to my wisdom; incline your ear to my insight,

Proverbs 5:2

² that you may maintain discretion and your lips may preserve knowledge.

Proverbs 5:3

³ Though the lips of the forbidden woman drip honey and her speech is smoother than oil,

Proverbs 5:4

⁴ in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a double-edged sword.

Proverbs 5:5

⁵ Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to Sheol.

Proverbs 5:6

⁶ She does not consider the path of life; she does not know that her ways are unstable.

Proverbs 5:7

⁷ So now, my sons, listen to me, and do not turn aside from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 5:8

⁸ Keep your path far from her; do not go near the door of her house,

Proverbs 5:9

⁹ lest you concede your vigor to others, and your years to one who is cruel;

Proverbs 5:10

¹⁰ lest strangers feast on your wealth, and your labors enrich the house of a foreigner.

Proverbs 5:11

¹¹ At the end of your life you will groan when your flesh and your body are spent,

Proverbs 5:12

¹² and you will say, "How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof!

Proverbs 5:13

¹³ I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my mentors.

Proverbs 5:14

¹⁴ I am on the brink of utter ruin in the midst of the whole assembly."

Proverbs 5:15

¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well.

Proverbs 5:16

¹⁶ Why should your springs flow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares?

Proverbs 5:17

¹⁷ Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers.

Proverbs 5:18

¹⁸ May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth:

Proverbs 5:19

¹⁹ A loving doe, a graceful fawn—may her breasts satisfy you always; may you be captivated by her love forever.

Proverbs 5:20

²⁰ Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress, or embrace the bosom of a stranger?

Proverbs 5:21

²¹ For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and the LORD examines all his paths.

Proverbs 5:22

²² The iniquities of a wicked man entrap him; the cords of his sin entangle him.

Proverbs 5:23

²³ He dies for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.

Proverbs 6:1

¹ My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, if you have struck hands in pledge with a stranger,

Proverbs 6:2

² if you have been trapped by the words of your lips, ensnared by the words of your mouth,

Proverbs 6:3

³ then do this, my son, to free yourself, for you have fallen into your neighbor's hands: Go, humble yourself, and press your plea with your neighbor.

Proverbs 6:4

⁴ Allow no sleep to your eyes or slumber to your eyelids.

Proverbs 6:5

⁵ Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

Proverbs 6:6

⁶ Walk in the manner of the ant, O slacker; observe its ways and become wise.

Proverbs 6:7

⁷ Without a commander, without an overseer or ruler,

Proverbs 6:8

⁸ it prepares its provisions in summer; it gathers its food at harvest.

Proverbs 6:9

⁹ How long will you lie there, O slacker? When will you get up from your sleep?

Proverbs 6:10

¹⁰ A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest,

Proverbs 6:11

¹¹ and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and need like a bandit.

Proverbs 6:12

¹² A worthless person, a wicked man, walks with a perverse mouth,

Proverbs 6:13

¹³ winking his eyes, speaking with his feet, and pointing with his fingers.

Proverbs 6:14

¹⁴ With deceit in his heart he devises evil; he continually sows discord.

Proverbs 6:15

¹⁵ Therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in an instant he will be shattered beyond recovery.

Proverbs 6:16

¹⁶ There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to Him:

Proverbs 6:17

¹⁷ haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood,

Proverbs 6:18

¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that run swiftly to evil,

Proverbs 6:19

¹⁹ a false witness who gives false testimony, and one who stirs up discord among brothers.

Proverbs 6:20

²⁰ My son, keep your father's commandment, and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

Proverbs 6:21

²¹ Bind them always upon your heart; tie them around your neck.

Proverbs 6:22

²² When you walk, they will guide you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.

Proverbs 6:23

²³ For this commandment is a lamp, this teaching is a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way to life,

Proverbs 6:24

²⁴ to keep you from the evil woman, from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.

Proverbs 6:25

²⁵ Do not lust in your heart for her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes.

Proverbs 6:26

²⁶ For the levy of the prostitute is poverty, and the adulteress preys upon your very life.

Proverbs 6:27

²⁷ Can a man embrace fire and his clothes not be burned?

Proverbs 6:28

²⁸ Can a man walk on hot coals without scorching his feet?

Proverbs 6:29

²⁹ So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished.

Proverbs 6:30

³⁰ Men do not despise the thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger.

Proverbs 6:31

³¹ Yet if caught, he must pay sevenfold; he must give up all the wealth of his house.

Proverbs 6:32

³² He who commits adultery lacks judgment; whoever does so destroys himself.

Proverbs 6:33

³³ Wounds and dishonor will befall him, and his reproach will never be wiped away.

Proverbs 6:34

³⁴ For jealousy enrages a husband, and he will show no mercy in the day of vengeance.

Proverbs 6:35

³⁵ He will not be appeased by any ransom, or persuaded by lavish gifts.

Proverbs 7:1

¹ My son, keep my words and treasure my commandments within you.

Proverbs 7:2

² Keep my commandments and live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.

Proverbs 7:3

³ Tie them to your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart.

Proverbs 7:4

⁴ Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call understanding your kinsman,

Proverbs 7:5

⁵ that they may keep you from the adulteress, from the stranger with seductive words.

Proverbs 7:6

⁶ For at the window of my house I looked through the lattice.

Proverbs 7:7

⁷ I saw among the simple, I noticed among the youths, a young man lacking judgment,

Proverbs 7:8

⁸ crossing the street near her corner, strolling down the road to her house,

Proverbs 7:9

⁹ at twilight, as the day was fading into the dark of the night.

Proverbs 7:10

¹⁰ Then a woman came out to meet him, with the attire of a harlot and cunning of heart.

Proverbs 7:11

¹¹ She is loud and defiant; her feet do not remain at home.

Proverbs 7:12

¹² Now in the street, now in the squares, she lurks at every corner.

Proverbs 7:13

¹³ She seizes him and kisses him; she brazenly says to him:

Proverbs 7:14

¹⁴ "I have made my peace offerings; today I have paid my vows.

Proverbs 7:15

¹⁵ So I came out to meet you; I sought you, and I have found you.

Proverbs 7:16

¹⁶ I have decked my bed with coverings, with colored linen from Egypt.

Proverbs 7:17

¹⁷ I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, with aloes, and with cinnamon.

Proverbs 7:18

¹⁸ Come, let us take our fill of love till morning. Let us delight in loving caresses!

Proverbs 7:19

¹⁹ For my husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey.

Proverbs 7:20

²⁰ He took with him a bag of money and will not return till the moon is full."

Proverbs 7:21

²¹ With her great persuasion she entices him; with her flattering lips she lures him.

Proverbs 7:22

²² He follows her on impulse, like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer bounding into a trap,

Proverbs 7:23

²³ until an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare—not knowing it will cost him his life.

Proverbs 7:24

²⁴ Now, my sons, listen to me, and attend to the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 7:25

²⁵ Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways; do not stray into her paths.

Proverbs 7:26

²⁶ For she has brought many down to death; her slain are many in number.

Proverbs 7:27

²⁷ Her house is the road to Sheol, descending to the chambers of death.

Proverbs 8:1

¹ Does not wisdom call out, and understanding raise her voice?

Proverbs 8:2

² On the heights overlooking the road, at the crossroads she takes her stand.

Proverbs 8:3

³ Beside the gates to the city, at the entrances she cries out:

Proverbs 8:4

⁴ "To you, O men, I call out, and my cry is to the sons of men.

Proverbs 8:5

⁵ O simple ones, learn to be shrewd; O fools, gain understanding.

Proverbs 8:6

⁶ Listen, for I speak of noble things, and the opening of my lips will reveal right.

Proverbs 8:7

⁷ For my mouth will speak the truth, and wickedness is detestable to my lips.

Proverbs 8:8

⁸ All the words of my mouth are righteous; none are crooked or perverse.

Proverbs 8:9

⁹ They are all plain to the discerning, and upright to those who find knowledge.

Proverbs 8:10

¹⁰ Receive my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than pure gold.

Proverbs 8:11

¹¹ For wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire compares with her.

Proverbs 8:12

¹² I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion.

Proverbs 8:13

¹³ To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate arrogant pride, evil conduct, and perverse speech.

Proverbs 8:14

¹⁴ Counsel and sound judgment are mine; I have insight and strength.

Proverbs 8:15

¹⁵ By me kings reign, and rulers enact just laws;

Proverbs 8:16

¹⁶ By me princes rule, and all nobles who govern justly.

Proverbs 8:17

¹⁷ I love those who love me, and those who seek me early shall find me.

Proverbs 8:18

¹⁸ With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and righteousness.

Proverbs 8:19

¹⁹ My fruit is better than gold, pure gold, and my harvest surpasses choice silver.

Proverbs 8:20

²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice,

Proverbs 8:21

²¹ bestowing wealth on those who love me and making their treasuries full.

Proverbs 8:22

²² The LORD created me as His first course, before His works of old.

Proverbs 8:23

²³ From everlasting I was established, from the beginning, before the earth began.

Proverbs 8:24

²⁴ When there were no watery depths, I was brought forth, when no springs were overflowing with water.

Proverbs 8:25

²⁵ Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth,

Proverbs 8:26

²⁶ before He made the land or fields, or any of the dust of the earth.

Proverbs 8:27

²⁷ I was there when He established the heavens, when He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep,

Proverbs 8:28

²⁸ when He established the clouds above, when the fountains of the deep gushed forth,

Proverbs 8:29

²⁹ when He set a boundary for the sea, so that the waters would not surpass His command, when He marked out the foundations of the earth.

Proverbs 8:30

³⁰ Then I was a skilled craftsman at His side, and His delight day by day, rejoicing always in His presence.

Proverbs 8:31

³¹ I was rejoicing in His whole world, delighting together in the sons of men.

Proverbs 8:32

³² Now therefore, my sons, listen to me, for blessed are those who keep my ways.

Proverbs 8:33

³³ Listen to instruction and be wise; do not ignore it.

Proverbs 8:34

³⁴ Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at the posts of my doorway.

Proverbs 8:35

³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life and obtains the favor of the LORD.

Proverbs 8:36

³⁶ But he who fails to find me harms himself; all who hate me love death."

Proverbs 9:1

¹ Wisdom has built her house; she has carved out her seven pillars.

Proverbs 9:2

² She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table.

Proverbs 9:3

³ She has sent out her maidservants; she calls out from the heights of the city.

Proverbs 9:4

⁴ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" she says to him who lacks judgment.

Proverbs 9:5

⁵ "Come, eat my bread and drink the wine I have mixed.

Proverbs 9:6

⁶ Leave your folly behind, and you will live; walk in the way of understanding."

Proverbs 9:7

⁷ He who corrects a mocker brings shame on himself; he who rebukes a wicked man taints himself.

Proverbs 9:8

⁸ Do not rebuke a mocker, or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.

Proverbs 9:9

⁹ Instruct a wise man, and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man, and he will increase his learning.

Proverbs 9:10

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:11

¹¹ For through wisdom your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life.

Proverbs 9:12

¹² If you are wise, you are wise to your own advantage; but if you scoff, you alone will bear the consequences.

Proverbs 9:13

¹³ The woman named Folly is loud; she is naive and knows nothing.

Proverbs 9:14

¹⁴ She sits at the door of her house, on a seat in the heights of the city,

Proverbs 9:15

¹⁵ calling out to those who pass by, who make their paths straight.

Proverbs 9:16

¹⁶ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" she says to him who lacks judgment.

Proverbs 9:17

¹⁷ “Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is tasty!”

Proverbs 9:18

¹⁸ But they do not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

Proverbs 10:1

¹ The proverbs of Solomon: A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.

Proverbs 10:2

² Ill-gotten treasures profit nothing, but righteousness brings deliverance from death.

Proverbs 10:3

³ The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry, but He denies the craving of the wicked.

Proverbs 10:4

⁴ Idle hands make one poor, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Proverbs 10:5

⁵ He who gathers in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.

Proverbs 10:6

⁶ Blessings are on the head of the righteous, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Proverbs 10:7

⁷ The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

Proverbs 10:8

⁸ A wise heart will receive commandments, but foolish lips will come to ruin.

Proverbs 10:9

⁹ He who walks in integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be found out.

Proverbs 10:10

¹⁰ He who winks the eye causes grief, and foolish lips will come to ruin.

Proverbs 10:11

¹¹ The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Proverbs 10:12

¹² Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers all transgressions.

Proverbs 10:13

¹³ Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment.

Proverbs 10:14

¹⁴ The wise store up knowledge, but the mouth of the fool invites destruction.

Proverbs 10:15

¹⁵ The wealth of the rich man is his fortified city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor.

Proverbs 10:16

¹⁶ The labor of the righteous leads to life, but the gain of the wicked brings punishment.

Proverbs 10:17

¹⁷ Whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life, but he who ignores reproof goes astray.

Proverbs 10:18

¹⁸ The one who conceals hatred has lying lips, and whoever spreads slander is a fool.

Proverbs 10:19

¹⁹ When words are many, sin is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

Proverbs 10:20

²⁰ The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked has little worth.

Proverbs 10:21

²¹ The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of judgment.

Proverbs 10:22

²² The blessing of the LORD enriches, and He adds no sorrow to it.

Proverbs 10:23

²³ The fool delights in shameful conduct, but a man of understanding has wisdom.

Proverbs 10:24

²⁴ What the wicked man dreads will overtake him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted.

Proverbs 10:25

²⁵ When the whirlwind passes, the wicked are no more, but the righteous are secure forever.

Proverbs 10:26

²⁶ Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is the slacker to those who send him.

Proverbs 10:27

²⁷ The fear of the LORD prolongs life, but the years of the wicked will be cut short.

Proverbs 10:28

²⁸ The hope of the righteous is joy, but the expectations of the wicked will perish.

Proverbs 10:29

²⁹ The way of the LORD is a refuge to the upright, but destruction awaits those who do evil.

Proverbs 10:30

³⁰ The righteous will never be shaken, but the wicked will not inhabit the land.

Proverbs 10:31

³¹ The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but a perverse tongue will be cut out.

Proverbs 10:32

³² The lips of the righteous know what is fitting, but the mouth of the wicked is perverse.

Proverbs 11:1

¹ Dishonest scales are an abomination to the LORD, but an accurate weight is His delight.

Proverbs 11:2

² When pride comes, disgrace follows, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 11:3

³ The integrity of the upright guides them, but the perversity of the faithless destroys them.

Proverbs 11:4

⁴ Riches are worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness brings deliverance from death.

Proverbs 11:5

⁵ The righteousness of the blameless directs their path, but the wicked fall by their own wickedness.

Proverbs 11:6

⁶ The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the faithless are trapped by their own desires.

Proverbs 11:7

⁷ When the wicked man dies, his hope perishes, and the hope of his strength vanishes.

Proverbs 11:8

⁸ The righteous man is delivered from trouble; in his place the wicked man goes in.

Proverbs 11:9

⁹ With his mouth the ungodly man destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous are rescued.

Proverbs 11:10

¹⁰ When the righteous thrive, the city rejoices, and when the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy.

Proverbs 11:11

¹¹ By the blessing of the upright a city is built up, but by the mouth of the wicked it is torn down.

Proverbs 11:12

¹² Whoever shows contempt for his neighbor lacks judgment, but a man of understanding remains silent.

Proverbs 11:13

¹³ A gossip reveals a secret, but a trustworthy person keeps a confidence.

Proverbs 11:14

¹⁴ For lack of guidance, a nation falls, but with many counselors comes deliverance.

Proverbs 11:15

¹⁵ He who puts up security for a stranger will surely suffer, but the one who hates indebtedness is secure.

Proverbs 11:16

¹⁶ A gracious woman attains honor, but ruthless men gain only wealth.

Proverbs 11:17

¹⁷ A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself.

Proverbs 11:18

¹⁸ The wicked man earns an empty wage, but he who sows righteousness reaps a true reward.

Proverbs 11:19

¹⁹ Genuine righteousness leads to life, but the pursuit of evil brings death.

Proverbs 11:20

²⁰ The perverse in heart are an abomination to the LORD, but the blameless in their walk are His delight.

Proverbs 11:21

²¹ Be assured that the wicked will not go unpunished, but the offspring of the righteous will escape.

Proverbs 11:22

²² Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.

Proverbs 11:23

²³ The desire of the righteous leads only to good, but the hope of the wicked brings wrath.

Proverbs 11:24

²⁴ One gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds what is right, only to become poor.

Proverbs 11:25

²⁵ A generous soul will prosper, and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:26

²⁶ The people will curse the hoarder of grain, but blessing will crown the one who sells it.

Proverbs 11:27

²⁷ He who searches out good finds favor, but evil will come to him who seeks it.

Proverbs 11:28

²⁸ He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like foliage.

Proverbs 11:29

²⁹ He who brings trouble on his house will inherit the wind, and the fool will be servant to the wise of heart.

Proverbs 11:30

³⁰ The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

Proverbs 11:31

³¹ If the righteous receive their due on earth, how much more the ungodly and the sinner!

Proverbs 12:1

¹ Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

Proverbs 12:2

² The good man obtains favor from the LORD, but the LORD condemns a man who devises evil.

Proverbs 12:3

³ A man cannot be established through wickedness, but the righteous cannot be uprooted.

Proverbs 12:4

⁴ A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but she who causes shame is like decay in his bones.

Proverbs 12:5

⁵ The plans of the righteous are just, but the counsel of the wicked leads to deceit.

Proverbs 12:6

⁶ The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood, but the speech of the upright rescues them.

Proverbs 12:7

⁷ The wicked are overthrown and perish, but the house of the righteous will stand.

Proverbs 12:8

⁸ A man is praised according to his wisdom, but a twisted mind is despised.

Proverbs 12:9

⁹ Better to be lightly esteemed yet have a servant, than to be self-important but lack food.

Proverbs 12:10

¹⁰ A righteous man regards the life of his animal, but the tender mercies of the wicked are only cruelty.

Proverbs 12:11

¹¹ The one who works his land will have plenty of food, but whoever chases fantasies lacks judgment.

Proverbs 12:12

¹² The wicked desire the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous flourishes.

Proverbs 12:13

¹³ An evil man is trapped by his rebellious speech, but a righteous man escapes from trouble.

Proverbs 12:14

¹⁴ By fruitful speech a man is filled with good things, and the work of his hands returns to him.

Proverbs 12:15

¹⁵ The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to counsel.

Proverbs 12:16

¹⁶ A fool's anger is known at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.

Proverbs 12:17

¹⁷ He who speaks the truth declares what is right, but a false witness speaks deceit.

Proverbs 12:18

¹⁸ Speaking rashly is like a piercing sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 12:19

¹⁹ Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

Proverbs 12:20

²⁰ Deceit is in the hearts of those who devise evil, but the counselors of peace have joy.

Proverbs 12:21

²¹ No harm befalls the righteous, but the wicked are filled with trouble.

Proverbs 12:22

²² Lying lips are detestable to the LORD, but those who deal faithfully are His delight.

Proverbs 12:23

²³ A shrewd man keeps his knowledge to himself, but a foolish heart proclaims its folly.

Proverbs 12:24

²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule, but laziness ends in forced labor.

Proverbs 12:25

²⁵ Anxiety weighs down the heart of a man, but a good word cheers it up.

Proverbs 12:26

²⁶ A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the ways of the wicked lead them astray.

Proverbs 12:27

²⁷ A lazy man does not roast his game, but a diligent man prizes his possession.

Proverbs 12:28

²⁸ There is life in the path of righteousness, but another path leads to death.

Proverbs 13:1

¹ A wise son heeds his father's discipline, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke.

Proverbs 13:2

² From the fruit of his lips a man enjoys good things, but the desire of the faithless is violence.

Proverbs 13:3

³ He who guards his mouth protects his life, but the one who opens his lips invites his own ruin.

Proverbs 13:4

⁴ The slacker craves yet has nothing, but the soul of the diligent is fully satisfied.

Proverbs 13:5

⁵ The righteous hate falsehood, but the wicked bring shame and disgrace.

Proverbs 13:6

⁶ Righteousness guards the man of integrity, but wickedness undermines the sinner.

Proverbs 13:7

⁷ One pretends to be rich, but has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.

Proverbs 13:8

⁸ Riches may ransom a man's life, but a poor man hears no threat.

Proverbs 13:9

⁹ The light of the righteous shines brightly, but the lamp of the wicked is extinguished.

Proverbs 13:10

¹⁰ Arrogance leads only to strife, but wisdom is with the well-advised.

Proverbs 13:11

¹¹ Dishonest wealth will dwindle, but what is earned through hard work will be multiplied.

Proverbs 13:12

¹² Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Proverbs 13:13

¹³ He who despises instruction will pay the penalty, but the one who respects a command will be rewarded.

Proverbs 13:14

¹⁴ The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning one from the snares of death.

Proverbs 13:15

¹⁵ Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the faithless is difficult.

Proverbs 13:16

¹⁶ Every prudent man acts with knowledge, but a fool displays his folly.

Proverbs 13:17

¹⁷ A wicked messenger falls into trouble, but a faithful envoy brings healing.

Proverbs 13:18

¹⁸ Poverty and shame come to him who ignores discipline, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

Proverbs 13:19

¹⁹ Desire fulfilled is sweet to the soul, but turning from evil is detestable to fools.

Proverbs 13:20

²⁰ He who walks with the wise will become wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.

Proverbs 13:21

²¹ Disaster pursues sinners, but prosperity is the reward of the righteous.

Proverbs 13:22

²² A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is passed to the righteous.

Proverbs 13:23

²³ Abundant food is in the fallow ground of the poor, but without justice it is swept away.

Proverbs 13:24

²⁴ He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently.

Proverbs 13:25

²⁵ A righteous man eats to his heart's content, but the stomach of the wicked is empty.

Proverbs 14:1

¹ Every wise woman builds her house, but a foolish one tears it down with her own hands.

Proverbs 14:2

² He who walks in uprightness fears the LORD, but the one who is devious in his ways despises Him.

Proverbs 14:3

³ The proud speech of a fool brings a rod to his back, but the lips of the wise protect them.

Proverbs 14:4

⁴ Where there are no oxen, the manger is empty, but an abundant harvest comes through the strength of the ox.

Proverbs 14:5

⁵ An honest witness does not deceive, but a dishonest witness pours forth lies.

Proverbs 14:6

⁶ A mocker seeks wisdom and finds none, but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.

Proverbs 14:7

⁷ Stay away from a foolish man; you will gain no knowledge from his speech.

Proverbs 14:8

⁸ The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way, but the folly of fools deceives them.

Proverbs 14:9

⁹ Fools mock the making of amends, but goodwill is found among the upright.

Proverbs 14:10

¹⁰ The heart knows its own bitterness, and no stranger shares in its joy.

Proverbs 14:11

¹¹ The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.

Proverbs 14:12

¹² There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Proverbs 14:13

¹³ Even in laughter the heart may ache, and joy may end in sorrow.

Proverbs 14:14

¹⁴ The backslider in heart receives the fill of his own ways, but a good man is rewarded for his ways.

Proverbs 14:15

¹⁵ The simple man believes every word, but the prudent man watches his steps.

Proverbs 14:16

¹⁶ A wise man fears and turns from evil, but a fool is careless and reckless.

Proverbs 14:17

¹⁷ A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a devious man is hated.

Proverbs 14:18

¹⁸ The simple inherit folly, but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

Proverbs 14:19

¹⁹ The evil bow before the good, and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

Proverbs 14:20

²⁰ The poor man is hated even by his neighbor, but many are those who love the rich.

Proverbs 14:21

²¹ He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who shows kindness to the poor.

Proverbs 14:22

²² Do not those who contrive evil go astray? But those who plan goodness find loving devotion and faithfulness.

Proverbs 14:23

²³ There is profit in all labor, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Proverbs 14:24

²⁴ The crown of the wise is their wealth, but the effort of fools is folly.

Proverbs 14:25

²⁵ A truthful witness saves lives, but one who utters lies is deceitful.

Proverbs 14:26

²⁶ He who fears the LORD is secure in confidence, and his children shall have a place of refuge.

Proverbs 14:27

²⁷ The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.

Proverbs 14:28

²⁸ A large population is a king's splendor, but a lack of subjects is a prince's ruin.

Proverbs 14:29

²⁹ A patient man has great understanding, but a quick-tempered man promotes folly.

Proverbs 14:30

³⁰ A tranquil heart is life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

Proverbs 14:31

³¹ Whoever oppresses the poor taunts their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors Him.

Proverbs 14:32

³² The wicked man is thrown down by his own sin, but the righteous man has a refuge even in death.

Proverbs 14:33

³³ Wisdom rests in the heart of the discerning; even among fools she is known.

Proverbs 14:34

³⁴ Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

Proverbs 14:35

³⁵ A king delights in a wise servant, but his anger falls on the shameful.

Proverbs 15:1

¹ A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 15:2

² The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool spouts folly.

Proverbs 15:3

³ The eyes of the LORD are in every place, observing the evil and the good.

Proverbs 15:4

⁴ A soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 15:5

⁵ A fool rejects his father's discipline, but whoever heeds correction is prudent.

Proverbs 15:6

⁶ The house of the righteous has great treasure, but the income of the wicked is trouble.

Proverbs 15:7

⁷ The lips of the wise spread knowledge, but not so the hearts of fools.

Proverbs 15:8

⁸ The sacrifice of the wicked is detestable to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.

Proverbs 15:9

⁹ The LORD detests the way of the wicked, but He loves those who pursue righteousness.

Proverbs 15:10

¹⁰ Discipline is harsh for him who leaves the path; he who hates correction will die.

Proverbs 15:11

¹¹ Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the LORD—how much more the hearts of men!

Proverbs 15:12

¹² A mocker does not love to be reproved, nor will he consult the wise.

Proverbs 15:13

¹³ A joyful heart makes a cheerful countenance, but sorrow of the heart crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 15:14

¹⁴ A discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly.

Proverbs 15:15

¹⁵ All the days of the oppressed are bad, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast.

Proverbs 15:16

¹⁶ Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure with turmoil.

Proverbs 15:17

¹⁷ Better a dish of vegetables where there is love than a fattened ox with hatred.

Proverbs 15:18

¹⁸ A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger calms dispute.

Proverbs 15:19

¹⁹ The way of the slacker is like a hedge of thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.

Proverbs 15:20

²⁰ A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother.

Proverbs 15:21

²¹ Folly is joy to one who lacks judgment, but a man of understanding walks a straight path.

Proverbs 15:22

²² Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Proverbs 15:23

²³ A man takes joy in a fitting reply—and how good is a timely word!

Proverbs 15:24

²⁴ The path of life leads upward for the wise, that he may avoid going down to Sheol.

Proverbs 15:25

²⁵ The LORD tears down the house of the proud, but He protects the boundaries of the widow.

Proverbs 15:26

²⁶ The LORD detests the thoughts of the wicked, but the words of the pure are pleasant to Him.

Proverbs 15:27

²⁷ He who is greedy for unjust gain brings trouble on his household, but he who hates bribes will live.

Proverbs 15:28

²⁸ The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked blurts out evil.

Proverbs 15:29

²⁹ The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.

Proverbs 15:30

³⁰ The light of the eyes cheers the heart, and good news nourishes the bones.

Proverbs 15:31

³¹ He who listens to life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise.

Proverbs 15:32

³² He who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever heeds correction gains understanding.

Proverbs 15:33

³³ The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 16:1

¹ The plans of the heart belong to man, but the reply of the tongue is from the LORD.

Proverbs 16:2

² All a man's ways are pure in his own eyes, but his motives are weighed out by the LORD.

Proverbs 16:3

³ Commit your works to the LORD and your plans will be achieved.

Proverbs 16:4

⁴ The LORD has made everything for His purpose—even the wicked for the day of disaster.

Proverbs 16:5

⁵ Everyone who is proud in heart is detestable to the LORD; be assured that he will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 16:6

⁶ By loving devotion and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one turns aside from evil.

Proverbs 16:7

⁷ When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even the man's enemies live at peace with him.

Proverbs 16:8

⁸ Better a little with righteousness than great gain with injustice.

Proverbs 16:9

⁹ A man's heart plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

Proverbs 16:10

¹⁰ A divine verdict is on the lips of a king; his mouth must not betray justice.

Proverbs 16:11

¹¹ Honest scales and balances are from the LORD; all the weights in the bag are His concern.

Proverbs 16:12

¹² Wicked behavior is detestable for kings, for a throne is established through righteousness.

Proverbs 16:13

¹³ Righteous lips are a king's delight, and he who speaks honestly is beloved.

Proverbs 16:14

¹⁴ The wrath of a king is a messenger of death, but a wise man will pacify it.

Proverbs 16:15

¹⁵ When a king's face brightens, there is life; his favor is like a rain cloud in spring.

Proverbs 16:16

¹⁶ How much better to acquire wisdom than gold! To gain understanding is more desirable than silver.

Proverbs 16:17

¹⁷ The highway of the upright leads away from evil; he who guards his way protects his life.

Proverbs 16:18

¹⁸ Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:19

¹⁹ It is better to be lowly in spirit among the humble than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Proverbs 16:20

²⁰ Whoever heeds instruction will find success, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.

Proverbs 16:21

²¹ The wise in heart are called discerning, and pleasant speech promotes instruction.

Proverbs 16:22

²² Understanding is a fountain of life to its possessor, but the discipline of fools is folly.

Proverbs 16:23

²³ The heart of the wise man instructs his mouth and adds persuasiveness to his lips.

Proverbs 16:24

²⁴ Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 16:25

²⁵ There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Proverbs 16:26

²⁶ A worker's appetite works for him because his hunger drives him onward.

Proverbs 16:27

²⁷ A worthless man digs up evil, and his speech is like a scorching fire.

Proverbs 16:28

²⁸ A perverse man spreads dissension, and a gossip divides close friends.

Proverbs 16:29

²⁹ A violent man entices his neighbor and leads him down a path that is not good.

Proverbs 16:30

³⁰ He who winks his eye devises perversity; he who purses his lips is bent on evil.

Proverbs 16:31

³¹ Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is attained along the path of righteousness.

Proverbs 16:32

³² He who is slow to anger is better than a warrior, and he who controls his temper is greater than one who captures a city.

Proverbs 16:33

³³ The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

Proverbs 17:1

¹ Better a dry morsel in quietness than a house full of feasting with strife.

Proverbs 17:2

² A wise servant will rule over a disgraceful son and share his inheritance as one of the brothers.

Proverbs 17:3

³ A crucible for silver and a furnace for gold, but the LORD is the tester of hearts.

Proverbs 17:4

⁴ A wicked man listens to evil lips; a liar gives ear to a destructive tongue.

Proverbs 17:5

⁵ He who mocks the poor insults their Maker; whoever gloats over calamity will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 17:6

⁶ Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of a son is his father.

Proverbs 17:7

⁷ Eloquent words are unfit for a fool; how much worse are lying lips to a ruler!

Proverbs 17:8

⁸ A bribe is a charm to its giver; wherever he turns, he succeeds.

Proverbs 17:9

⁹ Whoever conceals an offense promotes love, but he who brings it up separates friends.

Proverbs 17:10

¹⁰ A rebuke cuts into a man of discernment deeper than a hundred lashes cut into a fool.

Proverbs 17:11

¹¹ An evil man seeks only rebellion; a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

Proverbs 17:12

¹² It is better to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool in his folly.

Proverbs 17:13

¹³ If anyone returns evil for good, evil will never leave his house.

Proverbs 17:14

¹⁴ To start a quarrel is to release a flood; so abandon the dispute before it breaks out.

Proverbs 17:15

¹⁵ Acquitting the guilty and condemning the righteous—both are detestable to the LORD.

Proverbs 17:16

¹⁶ Why should the fool have money in his hand with no intention of buying wisdom?

Proverbs 17:17

¹⁷ A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:18

¹⁸ A man lacking judgment strikes hands in pledge and puts up security for his neighbor.

Proverbs 17:19

¹⁹ He who loves transgression loves strife; he who builds his gate high invites destruction.

Proverbs 17:20

²⁰ The one with a perverse heart finds no good, and he whose tongue is deceitful falls into trouble.

Proverbs 17:21

²¹ A man fathers a fool to his own grief; the father of a fool has no joy.

Proverbs 17:22

²² A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.

Proverbs 17:23

²³ A wicked man takes a covert bribe to subvert the course of justice.

Proverbs 17:24

²⁴ Wisdom is the focus of the discerning, but the eyes of a fool wander to the ends of the earth.

Proverbs 17:25

²⁵ A foolish son brings grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him.

Proverbs 17:26

²⁶ It is surely not good to punish the innocent or to flog a noble for his honesty.

Proverbs 17:27

²⁷ A man of knowledge restrains his words, and a man of understanding maintains a calm spirit.

Proverbs 17:28

²⁸ Even a fool is considered wise if he keeps silent, and discerning when he holds his tongue.

Proverbs 18:1

¹ He who isolates himself pursues selfish desires; he rebels against all sound judgment.

Proverbs 18:2

² A fool does not delight in understanding, but only in airing his opinions.

Proverbs 18:3

³ With a wicked man comes contempt as well, and shame is accompanied by disgrace.

Proverbs 18:4

⁴ The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.

Proverbs 18:5

⁵ Showing partiality to the wicked is not good, nor is depriving the innocent of justice.

Proverbs 18:6

⁶ A fool's lips bring him strife, and his mouth invites a beating.

Proverbs 18:7

⁷ A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are a snare to his soul.

Proverbs 18:8

⁸ The words of a gossip are like choice morsels that go down into the inmost being.

Proverbs 18:9

⁹ Whoever is slothful in his work is brother to him who destroys.

Proverbs 18:10

¹⁰ The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Proverbs 18:11

¹¹ A rich man's wealth is his fortified city; it is like a high wall in his imagination.

Proverbs 18:12

¹² Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 18:13

¹³ He who answers a matter before he hears it—this is folly and disgrace to him.

Proverbs 18:14

¹⁴ The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, but who can survive a broken spirit?

Proverbs 18:15

¹⁵ The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks it out.

Proverbs 18:16

¹⁶ A man's gift opens doors for him, and brings him before great men.

Proverbs 18:17

¹⁷ The first to state his case seems right until another comes and cross-examines him.

Proverbs 18:18

¹⁸ Casting the lot ends quarrels and separates strong opponents.

Proverbs 18:19

¹⁹ An offended brother is harder to win than a fortified city, and disputes are like the bars of a castle.

Proverbs 18:20

²⁰ From the fruit of his mouth a man's belly is filled; with the harvest from his lips he is satisfied.

Proverbs 18:21

²¹ Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 18:22

²² He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD.

Proverbs 18:23

²³ The poor man pleads for mercy, but the rich man answers harshly.

Proverbs 18:24

²⁴ A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who stays closer than a brother.

Proverbs 19:1

¹ Better a poor man who walks with integrity than a fool whose lips are perverse.

Proverbs 19:2

² Even zeal is no good without knowledge, and he who hurries his footsteps misses the mark.

Proverbs 19:3

³ A man's own folly subverts his way, yet his heart rages against the LORD.

Proverbs 19:4

⁴ Wealth attracts many friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friend.

Proverbs 19:5

⁵ A false witness will not go unpunished, and one who utters lies will not escape.

Proverbs 19:6

⁶ Many seek the favor of the prince, and everyone is a friend of the gift giver.

Proverbs 19:7

⁷ All the brothers of a poor man hate him—how much more do his friends avoid him! He may pursue them with pleading, but they are nowhere to be found.

Proverbs 19:8

⁸ He who acquires wisdom loves himself; one who safeguards understanding will find success.

Proverbs 19:9

⁹ A false witness will not go unpunished, and one who pours out lies will perish.

Proverbs 19:10

¹⁰ Luxury is unseemly for a fool—how much worse for a slave to rule over princes!

Proverbs 19:11

¹¹ A man's insight gives him patience, and his virtue is to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 19:12

¹² A king's rage is like the roar of a lion, but his favor is like dew on the grass.

Proverbs 19:13

¹³ A foolish son is his father's ruin, and a quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping.

Proverbs 19:14

¹⁴ Houses and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the LORD.

Proverbs 19:15

¹⁵ Laziness brings on deep sleep, and an idle soul will suffer hunger.

Proverbs 19:16

¹⁶ He who keeps a commandment preserves his soul, but he who is careless in his ways will die.

Proverbs 19:17

¹⁷ Kindness to the poor is a loan to the LORD, and He will repay the lender.

Proverbs 19:18

¹⁸ Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be party to his death.

Proverbs 19:19

¹⁹ A man of great anger must pay the penalty; if you rescue him, you will have to do so again.

Proverbs 19:20

²⁰ Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days.

Proverbs 19:21

²¹ Many plans are in a man's heart, but the purpose of the LORD will prevail.

Proverbs 19:22

²² The desire of a man is loving devotion; better to be poor than a liar.

Proverbs 19:23

²³ The fear of the LORD leads to life, that one may rest content, without visitation from harm.

Proverbs 19:24

²⁴ The slacker buries his hand in the dish; he will not even bring it back to his mouth.

Proverbs 19:25

²⁵ Strike a mocker, and the simple will beware; rebuke the discerning man, and he will gain knowledge.

Proverbs 19:26

²⁶ He who assaults his father or evicts his mother is a son who brings shame and disgrace.

Proverbs 19:27

²⁷ If you cease to hear instruction, my son, you will stray from the words of knowledge.

Proverbs 19:28

²⁸ A corrupt witness mocks justice, and a wicked mouth swallows iniquity.

Proverbs 19:29

²⁹ Judgments are prepared for mockers, and beatings for the backs of fools.

Proverbs 20:1

¹ Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by them is not wise.

Proverbs 20:2

² The terror of a king is like the roar of a lion; whoever provokes him forfeits his own life.

Proverbs 20:3

³ It is honorable for a man to resolve a dispute, but any fool will quarrel.

Proverbs 20:4

⁴ The slacker does not plow in season; at harvest time he looks, but nothing is there.

Proverbs 20:5

⁵ The intentions of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.

Proverbs 20:6

⁶ Many a man proclaims his loving devotion, but who can find a trustworthy man?

Proverbs 20:7

⁷ The righteous man walks with integrity; blessed are his children after him.

Proverbs 20:8

⁸ A king who sits on a throne to judge sifts out all evil with his eyes.

Proverbs 20:9

⁹ Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure; I am cleansed from my sin"?

Proverbs 20:10

¹⁰ Differing weights and unequal measures—both are detestable to the LORD.

Proverbs 20:11

¹¹ Even a young man is known by his actions—whether his conduct is pure and upright.

Proverbs 20:12

¹² Ears that hear and eyes that see—the LORD has made them both.

Proverbs 20:13

¹³ Do not love sleep, or you will grow poor; open your eyes, and you will have plenty of food.

Proverbs 20:14

¹⁴ “Worthless, worthless!” says the buyer, but on the way out, he gloats.

Proverbs 20:15

¹⁵ There is an abundance of gold and rubies, but lips of knowledge are a rare treasure.

Proverbs 20:16

¹⁶ Take the garment of the one who posts security for a stranger; get collateral if it is for a foreigner.

Proverbs 20:17

¹⁷ Food gained by fraud is sweet to a man, but later his mouth is full of gravel.

Proverbs 20:18

¹⁸ Set plans by consultation, and wage war under sound guidance.

Proverbs 20:19

¹⁹ He who reveals secrets is a constant gossip; avoid the one who babbles with his lips.

Proverbs 20:20

²⁰ Whoever curses his father or mother, his lamp will be extinguished in deepest darkness.

Proverbs 20:21

²¹ An inheritance gained quickly will not be blessed in the end.

Proverbs 20:22

²² Do not say, “I will avenge this evil!” Wait on the LORD, and He will save you.

Proverbs 20:23

²³ Unequal weights are detestable to the LORD, and dishonest scales are no good.

Proverbs 20:24

²⁴ A man’s steps are from the LORD, so how can anyone understand his own way?

Proverbs 20:25

²⁵ It is a trap for a man to dedicate something rashly, only later to reconsider his vows.

Proverbs 20:26

²⁶ A wise king separates out the wicked and drives the threshing wheel over them.

Proverbs 20:27

²⁷ The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, searching out his inmost being.

Proverbs 20:28

²⁸ Loving devotion and faithfulness preserve a king; by these he maintains his throne.

Proverbs 20:29

²⁹ The glory of young men is their strength, and gray hair is the splendor of the old.

Proverbs 20:30

³⁰ Lashes and wounds scour evil, and beatings cleanse the inmost parts.

Proverbs 21:1

¹ The king's heart is a waterway in the hand of the LORD; He directs it where He pleases.

Proverbs 21:2

² All a man's ways seem right to him, but the LORD weighs the heart.

Proverbs 21:3

³ To do righteousness and justice is more desirable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Proverbs 21:4

⁴ Haughty eyes and a proud heart—the guides of the wicked—are sin.

Proverbs 21:5

⁵ The plans of the diligent bring plenty, as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Proverbs 21:6

⁶ Making a fortune by a lying tongue is a vanishing mist, a deadly pursuit.

Proverbs 21:7

⁷ The violence of the wicked will sweep them away because they refuse to do what is just.

Proverbs 21:8

⁸ The way of a guilty man is crooked, but the conduct of the innocent is upright.

Proverbs 21:9

⁹ Better to live on a corner of the roof than to share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 21:10

¹⁰ The soul of the wicked man craves evil; his neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.

Proverbs 21:11

¹¹ When a mocker is punished, the simple gain wisdom; and when a wise man is instructed, he acquires knowledge.

Proverbs 21:12

¹² The Righteous One considers the house of the wicked and brings the wicked to ruin.

Proverbs 21:13

¹³ Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too shall cry out and receive no answer.

Proverbs 21:14

¹⁴ A gift in secret soothes anger, and a covert bribe pacifies great wrath.

Proverbs 21:15

¹⁵ Justice executed is a joy to the righteous, but a terror to the workers of iniquity.

Proverbs 21:16

¹⁶ The man who strays from the path of understanding will rest in the assembly of the dead.

Proverbs 21:17

¹⁷ He who loves pleasure will become poor; the one who loves wine and oil will never be rich.

Proverbs 21:18

¹⁸ The wicked become a ransom for the righteous, and the faithless for the upright.

Proverbs 21:19

¹⁹ Better to live in the desert than with a contentious and ill-tempered wife.

Proverbs 21:20

²⁰ Precious treasures and oil are in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man consumes them.

Proverbs 21:21

²¹ He who pursues righteousness and loving devotion finds life, righteousness, and honor.

Proverbs 21:22

²² A wise man scales the city of the mighty and pulls down the stronghold in which they trust.

Proverbs 21:23

²³ He who guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from distress.

Proverbs 21:24

²⁴ Mockers is the name of the proud and arrogant man—of him who acts with excessive pride.

Proverbs 21:25

²⁵ The craving of the slacker kills him because his hands refuse to work.

Proverbs 21:26

²⁶ All day long he covets more, but the righteous give without restraint.

Proverbs 21:27

²⁷ The sacrifice of the wicked is detestable—how much more so when brought with ill intent!

Proverbs 21:28

²⁸ A lying witness will perish, but the man who listens to truth will speak forever.

Proverbs 21:29

²⁹ A wicked man hardens his face, but the upright man makes his way sure.

Proverbs 21:30

³⁰ There is no wisdom, no understanding, no counsel that can prevail against the LORD.

Proverbs 21:31

³¹ A horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory is of the LORD.

Proverbs 22:1

¹ A good name is more desirable than great riches; favor is better than silver and gold.

Proverbs 22:2

² The rich and the poor have this in common: The LORD is Maker of them all.

Proverbs 22:3

³ The prudent see danger and take cover, but the simple keep going and suffer the consequences.

Proverbs 22:4

⁴ The rewards of humility and the fear of the LORD are wealth and honor and life.

Proverbs 22:5

⁵ Thorns and snares lie on the path of the perverse; he who guards his soul stays far from them.

Proverbs 22:6

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:7

⁷ The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.

Proverbs 22:8

⁸ He who sows injustice will reap disaster, and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.

Proverbs 22:9

⁹ A generous man will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

Proverbs 22:10

¹⁰ Drive out the mocker, and conflict will depart; even quarreling and insults will cease.

Proverbs 22:11

¹¹ He who loves a pure heart and gracious lips will have the king for a friend.

Proverbs 22:12

¹² The LORD's eyes keep watch over knowledge, but He frustrates the words of the faithless.

Proverbs 22:13

¹³ The slacker says, "There is a lion outside! I will be slain in the streets!"

Proverbs 22:14

¹⁴ The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit; he who is under the wrath of the LORD will fall into it.

Proverbs 22:15

¹⁵ Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

Proverbs 22:16

¹⁶ Oppressing the poor to enrich oneself or giving gifts to the rich will surely lead to poverty.

Proverbs 22:17

¹⁷ Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise—apply your mind to my knowledge—

Proverbs 22:18

¹⁸ for it is pleasing when you keep them within you and they are constantly on your lips.

Proverbs 22:19

¹⁹ So that your trust may be in the LORD, I instruct you today—yes, you.

Proverbs 22:20

²⁰ Have I not written for you thirty sayings about counsel and knowledge,

Proverbs 22:21

²¹ to show you true and reliable words, that you may soundly answer those who sent you?

Proverbs 22:22

²² Do not rob a poor man because he is poor, and do not crush the afflicted at the gate,

Proverbs 22:23

²³ for the LORD will take up their case and will plunder those who rob them.

Proverbs 22:24

²⁴ Do not make friends with an angry man, and do not associate with a hot-tempered man,

Proverbs 22:25

²⁵ or you may learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.

Proverbs 22:26

²⁶ Do not be one who gives pledges, who puts up security for debts.

Proverbs 22:27

²⁷ If you have nothing with which to pay, why should your bed be taken from under you?

Proverbs 22:28

²⁸ Do not move an ancient boundary stone which your fathers have placed.

Proverbs 22:29

²⁹ Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will be stationed in the presence of kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

Proverbs 23:1

¹ When you sit down to dine with a ruler, consider carefully what is set before you,

Proverbs 23:2

² and put a knife to your throat if you possess a great appetite.

Proverbs 23:3

³ Do not crave his delicacies, for that food is deceptive.

Proverbs 23:4

⁴ Do not wear yourself out to get rich; be wise enough to restrain yourself.

Proverbs 23:5

⁵ When you glance at wealth, it disappears, for it makes wings for itself and flies like an eagle to the sky.

Proverbs 23:6

⁶ Do not eat the bread of a stingy man, and do not crave his delicacies;

Proverbs 23:7

⁷ for he is keeping track, inwardly counting the cost. "Eat and drink," he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

Proverbs 23:8

⁸ You will vomit up what little you have eaten and waste your pleasant words.

Proverbs 23:9

⁹ Do not speak to a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of your words.

Proverbs 23:10

¹⁰ Do not move an ancient boundary stone or encroach on the fields of the fatherless,

Proverbs 23:11

¹¹ for their Redeemer is strong; He will take up their case against you.

Proverbs 23:12

¹² Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge.

Proverbs 23:13

¹³ Do not withhold discipline from a child; although you strike him with a rod, he will not die.

Proverbs 23:14

¹⁴ Strike him with a rod, and you will deliver his soul from Sheol.

Proverbs 23:15

¹⁵ My son, if your heart is wise, my own heart will indeed rejoice.

Proverbs 23:16

¹⁶ My inmost being will rejoice when your lips speak what is right.

Proverbs 23:17

¹⁷ Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always continue in the fear of the LORD.

Proverbs 23:18

¹⁸ For surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

Proverbs 23:19

¹⁹ Listen, my son, and be wise, and guide your heart on the right course.

Proverbs 23:20

²⁰ Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat.

Proverbs 23:21

²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe them in rags.

Proverbs 23:22

²² Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Proverbs 23:23

²³ Invest in truth and never sell it—in wisdom and instruction and understanding.

Proverbs 23:24

²⁴ The father of a righteous man will greatly rejoice, and he who fathers a wise son will delight in him.

Proverbs 23:25

²⁵ May your father and mother be glad, and may she who gave you birth rejoice!

Proverbs 23:26

²⁶ My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes delight in my ways.

Proverbs 23:27

²⁷ For a prostitute is a deep pit, and an adulteress is a narrow well.

Proverbs 23:28

²⁸ Like a robber she lies in wait and multiplies the faithless among men.

Proverbs 23:29

²⁹ Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has needless wounds? Who has bloodshot eyes?

Proverbs 23:30

³⁰ Those who linger over wine, who go to taste mixed drinks.

Proverbs 23:31

³¹ Do not gaze at wine while it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly.

Proverbs 23:32

³² In the end it bites like a snake and stings like a viper.

Proverbs 23:33

³³ Your eyes will see strange things, and your mind will utter perversities.

Proverbs 23:34

³⁴ You will be like one sleeping on the high seas or lying on the top of a mast:

Proverbs 23:35

³⁵ "They struck me, but I feel no pain! They beat me, but I did not know it! When can I wake up to search for another drink?"

Proverbs 24:1

¹ Do not envy wicked men or desire their company;

Proverbs 24:2

² for their hearts devise violence, and their lips declare trouble.

Proverbs 24:3

³ By wisdom a house is built and by understanding it is established;

Proverbs 24:4

⁴ through knowledge its rooms are filled with every precious and beautiful treasure.

Proverbs 24:5

⁵ A wise man is strong, and a man of knowledge enhances his strength.

Proverbs 24:6

⁶ Only with sound guidance should you wage war, and victory lies in a multitude of counselors.

Proverbs 24:7

⁷ Wisdom is too high for a fool; he does not open his mouth in the meeting place.

Proverbs 24:8

⁸ He who plots evil will be called a schemer.

Proverbs 24:9

⁹ A foolish scheme is sin, and a mocker is detestable to men.

Proverbs 24:10

¹⁰ If you faint in the day of distress, how small is your strength!

Proverbs 24:11

¹¹ Rescue those being led away to death, and restrain those stumbling toward the slaughter.

Proverbs 24:12

¹² If you say, "Behold, we did not know about this," does not He who weighs hearts consider it? Does not the One who guards your life know? Will He not repay a man according to his deeds?

Proverbs 24:13

¹³ Eat honey, my son, for it is good, and the honeycomb is sweet to your taste.

Proverbs 24:14

¹⁴ Know therefore that wisdom is sweet to your soul. If you find it, there is a future for you, and your hope will never be cut off.

Proverbs 24:15

¹⁵ Do not lie in wait, O wicked man, near the dwelling of the righteous; do not destroy his resting place.

Proverbs 24:16

¹⁶ For though a righteous man may fall seven times, he still gets up; but the wicked stumble in bad times.

Proverbs 24:17

¹⁷ Do not gloat when your enemy falls, and do not let your heart rejoice when he stumbles,

Proverbs 24:18

¹⁸ or the LORD will see and disapprove, and turn His wrath away from him.

Proverbs 24:19

¹⁹ Do not fret over evildoers, and do not be envious of the wicked.

Proverbs 24:20

²⁰ For the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be extinguished.

Proverbs 24:21

²¹ My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not associate with the rebellious.

Proverbs 24:22

²² For they will bring sudden destruction. Who knows what ruin they can bring?

Proverbs 24:23

²³ These also are sayings of the wise: To show partiality in judgment is not good.

Proverbs 24:24

²⁴ Whoever tells the guilty, "You are innocent"—peoples will curse him, and nations will denounce him;

Proverbs 24:25

²⁵ but it will go well with those who convict the guilty, and rich blessing will come upon them.

Proverbs 24:26

²⁶ An honest answer given is like a kiss on the lips.

Proverbs 24:27

²⁷ Complete your outdoor work and prepare your field; after that, you may build your house.

Proverbs 24:28

²⁸ Do not testify against your neighbor without cause, and do not deceive with your lips.

Proverbs 24:29

²⁹ Do not say, "I will do to him as he has done to me; I will repay the man according to his work."

Proverbs 24:30

³⁰ I went past the field of a slacker and by the vineyard of a man lacking judgment.

Proverbs 24:31

³¹ Thorns had grown up everywhere, thistles had covered the ground, and the stone wall was broken down.

Proverbs 24:32

³² I observed and took it to heart; I looked and received instruction:

Proverbs 24:33

³³ A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest,

Proverbs 24:34

³⁴ and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and need like a bandit.

Proverbs 25:1

¹ These are additional proverbs of Solomon, which were copied by the men of Hezekiah king of Judah:

Proverbs 25:2

² It is the glory of God to conceal a matter and the glory of kings to search it out.

Proverbs 25:3

³ As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings cannot be searched.

Proverbs 25:4

⁴ Remove the dross from the silver, and a vessel for a silversmith will come forth.

Proverbs 25:5

⁵ Remove the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established in righteousness.

Proverbs 25:6

⁶ Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king, and do not stand in the place of great men;

Proverbs 25:7

⁷ for it is better that he says to you, "Come up here!" than that you should be demoted in the presence of the prince. Even what you have seen with your own eyes,

Proverbs 25:8

⁸ do not bring hastily to court. Otherwise, what will you do in the end when your neighbor puts you to shame?

Proverbs 25:9

⁹ Argue your case with your neighbor without betraying another's confidence,

Proverbs 25:10

¹⁰ lest the one who hears may disgrace you, and your infamy never go away.

Proverbs 25:11

¹¹ A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

Proverbs 25:12

¹² Like an earring of gold or an ornament of fine gold is a wise man's rebuke to a listening ear.

Proverbs 25:13

¹³ Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest is a trustworthy messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the soul of his masters.

Proverbs 25:14

¹⁴ Like clouds and wind without rain is the man who boasts of gifts never given.

Proverbs 25:15

¹⁵ Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.

Proverbs 25:16

¹⁶ If you find honey, eat just what you need, lest you have too much and vomit it up.

Proverbs 25:17

¹⁷ Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house, lest he grow weary and hate you.

Proverbs 25:18

¹⁸ Like a club or sword or sharp arrow is a man who bears false witness against his neighbor.

Proverbs 25:19

¹⁹ Like a broken tooth or a foot out of joint is confidence in a faithless man in time of trouble.

Proverbs 25:20

²⁰ Like one who removes a garment on a cold day or vinegar poured on a wound is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

Proverbs 25:21

²¹ If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.

Proverbs 25:22

²² For in so doing, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

Proverbs 25:23

²³ As the north wind brings forth rain, so a backbiting tongue brings angry looks.

Proverbs 25:24

²⁴ Better to live on a corner of the roof than to share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 25:25

²⁵ Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land.

Proverbs 25:26

²⁶ Like a muddied spring or a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.

Proverbs 25:27

²⁷ It is not good to eat too much honey or to search out one's own glory.

Proverbs 25:28

²⁸ Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who does not control his temper.

Proverbs 26:1

¹ Like snow in summer and rain at harvest, honor does not befit a fool.

Proverbs 26:2

² Like a fluttering sparrow or darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest.

Proverbs 26:3

³ A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the backs of fools!

Proverbs 26:4

⁴ Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you yourself will be like him.

Proverbs 26:5

⁵ Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he become wise in his own eyes.

Proverbs 26:6

⁶ Like cutting off one's own feet or drinking violence is the sending of a message by the hand of a fool.

Proverbs 26:7

⁷ Like lame legs hanging limp is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.

Proverbs 26:8

⁸ Like binding a stone into a sling is the giving of honor to a fool.

Proverbs 26:9

⁹ Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.

Proverbs 26:10

¹⁰ Like an archer who wounds at random is he who hires a fool or passerby.

Proverbs 26:11

¹¹ As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.

Proverbs 26:12

¹² Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

Proverbs 26:13

¹³ The slacker says, "A lion is in the road! A fierce lion roams the public square!"

Proverbs 26:14

¹⁴ As a door turns on its hinges, so the slacker turns on his bed.

Proverbs 26:15

¹⁵ The slacker buries his hand in the dish; it wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.

Proverbs 26:16

¹⁶ The slacker is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.

Proverbs 26:17

¹⁷ Like one who grabs a dog by the ears is a passerby who meddles in a quarrel not his own.

Proverbs 26:18

¹⁸ Like a madman shooting firebrands and deadly arrows,

Proverbs 26:19

¹⁹ so is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, "I was only joking!"

Proverbs 26:20

²⁰ Without wood, a fire goes out; without gossip, a conflict ceases.

Proverbs 26:21

²¹ Like charcoal for embers and wood for fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.

Proverbs 26:22

²² The words of a gossip are like choice morsels that go down into the inmost being.

Proverbs 26:23

²³ Like glaze covering an earthen vessel are burning lips and a wicked heart.

Proverbs 26:24

²⁴ A hateful man disguises himself with his speech, but he lays up deceit in his heart.

Proverbs 26:25

²⁵ When he speaks graciously, do not believe him, for seven abominations fill his heart.

Proverbs 26:26

²⁶ Though his hatred is concealed by deception, his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.

Proverbs 26:27

²⁷ He who digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.

Proverbs 26:28

²⁸ A lying tongue hates those it crushes, and a flattering mouth causes ruin.

Proverbs 27:1

¹ Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.

Proverbs 27:2

² Let another praise you, and not your own mouth—a stranger, and not your own lips.

Proverbs 27:3

³ A stone is heavy and sand is a burden, but aggravation from a fool outweighs them both.

Proverbs 27:4

⁴ Wrath is cruel and anger is like a flood, but who can withstand jealousy?

Proverbs 27:5

⁵ Better an open rebuke than love that is concealed.

Proverbs 27:6

⁶ The wounds of a friend are faithful, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Proverbs 27:7

⁷ The soul that is full loathes honey, but to a hungry soul, any bitter thing is sweet.

Proverbs 27:8

⁸ Like a bird that strays from its nest is a man who wanders from his home.

Proverbs 27:9

⁹ Oil and incense bring joy to the heart, and the counsel of a friend is sweetness to the soul.

Proverbs 27:10

¹⁰ Do not forsake your friend or your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; better a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.

Proverbs 27:11

¹¹ Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart, so that I can answer him who taunts me.

Proverbs 27:12

¹² The prudent see danger and take cover, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.

Proverbs 27:13

¹³ Take the garment of him who posts security for a stranger; get collateral if it is for a foreigner.

Proverbs 27:14

¹⁴ If one blesses his neighbor with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be counted to him as a curse.

Proverbs 27:15

¹⁵ A constant dripping on a rainy day and a contentious woman are alike—

Proverbs 27:16

¹⁶ restraining her is like holding back the wind or grasping oil with one's right hand.

Proverbs 27:17

¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:18

¹⁸ Whoever tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and he who looks after his master will be honored.

Proverbs 27:19

¹⁹ As water reflects the face, so the heart reflects the true man.

Proverbs 27:20

²⁰ Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

Proverbs 27:21

²¹ A crucible for silver and a furnace for gold, but a man is tested by the praise accorded him.

Proverbs 27:22

²² Though you grind a fool like grain with mortar and a pestle, yet his folly will not depart from him.

Proverbs 27:23

²³ Be sure to know the state of your flocks, and pay close attention to your herds;

Proverbs 27:24

²⁴ for riches are not forever, nor does a crown endure to every generation.

Proverbs 27:25

²⁵ When hay is removed and new growth appears and the grass from the hills is gathered,

Proverbs 27:26

²⁶ the lambs will provide you with clothing, and the goats with the price of a field.

Proverbs 27:27

²⁷ You will have plenty of goats' milk to feed you—food for your household and nourishment for your maidservants.

Proverbs 28:1

¹ The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.

Proverbs 28:2

² A land in rebellion has many rulers, but a man of understanding and knowledge maintains order.

Proverbs 28:3

³ A destitute leader who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain that leaves no food.

Proverbs 28:4

⁴ Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, but those who keep the law resist them.

Proverbs 28:5

⁵ Evil men do not understand justice, but those who seek the LORD comprehend fully.

Proverbs 28:6

⁶ Better a poor man who walks with integrity than a rich man whose ways are perverse.

Proverbs 28:7

⁷ A discerning son keeps the law, but a companion of gluttons disgraces his father.

Proverbs 28:8

⁸ He who increases his wealth by interest and usury lays it up for one who is kind to the poor.

Proverbs 28:9

⁹ Whoever turns his ear away from hearing the law, even his prayer is detestable.

Proverbs 28:10

¹⁰ He who leads the upright along the path of evil will fall into his own pit, but the blameless will inherit what is good.

Proverbs 28:11

¹¹ A rich man is wise in his own eyes, but a poor man with discernment sees through him.

Proverbs 28:12

¹² When the righteous triumph, there is great glory, but when the wicked rise, men hide themselves.

Proverbs 28:13

¹³ He who conceals his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them will find mercy.

Proverbs 28:14

¹⁴ Blessed is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

Proverbs 28:15

¹⁵ Like a roaring lion or a charging bear is a wicked ruler over a helpless people.

Proverbs 28:16

¹⁶ A leader who lacks judgment is also a great oppressor, but he who hates dishonest profit will prolong his days.

Proverbs 28:17

¹⁷ A man burdened by bloodguilt will flee into the Pit; let no one support him.

Proverbs 28:18

¹⁸ He who walks with integrity will be kept safe, but whoever is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall.

Proverbs 28:19

¹⁹ The one who works his land will have plenty of food, but whoever chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.

Proverbs 28:20

²⁰ A faithful man will abound with blessings, but one eager to be rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 28:21

²¹ To show partiality is not good, yet a man will do wrong for a piece of bread.

Proverbs 28:22

²² A stingy man hastens after wealth and does not know that poverty awaits him.

Proverbs 28:23

²³ He who rebukes a man will later find more favor than one who flatters with his tongue.

Proverbs 28:24

²⁴ He who robs his father or mother, saying, "It is not wrong," is a companion to the man who destroys.

Proverbs 28:25

²⁵ A greedy man stirs up strife, but he who trusts in the LORD will prosper.

Proverbs 28:26

²⁶ He who trusts in himself is a fool, but one who walks in wisdom will be safe.

Proverbs 28:27

²⁷ Whoever gives to the poor will not be in need, but he who hides his eyes will receive many curses.

Proverbs 28:28

²⁸ When the wicked come to power, people hide themselves; but when they perish, the righteous flourish.

Proverbs 29:1

¹ A man who remains stiff-necked after much reproof will suddenly be shattered beyond recovery.

Proverbs 29:2

² When the righteous flourish, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

Proverbs 29:3

³ A man who loves wisdom brings joy to his father, but a companion of prostitutes squanders his wealth.

Proverbs 29:4

⁴ By justice a king brings stability to the land, but a man who exacts tribute demolishes it.

Proverbs 29:5

⁵ A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet.

Proverbs 29:6

⁶ An evil man is caught by his own sin, but a righteous one sings and rejoices.

Proverbs 29:7

⁷ The righteous consider the cause of the poor, but the wicked have no regard for such concerns.

Proverbs 29:8

⁸ Mockers inflame a city, but the wise turn away anger.

Proverbs 29:9

⁹ If a wise man goes to court with a fool, there will be raving and laughing with no resolution.

Proverbs 29:10

¹⁰ Men of bloodshed hate a blameless man, but the upright care for his life.

Proverbs 29:11

¹¹ A fool vents all his anger, but a wise man holds it back.

Proverbs 29:12

¹² If a ruler listens to lies, all his officials will be wicked.

Proverbs 29:13

¹³ The poor man and the oppressor have this in common: The LORD gives light to the eyes of both.

Proverbs 29:14

¹⁴ A king who judges the poor with fairness—his throne will be established forever.

Proverbs 29:15

¹⁵ A rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.

Proverbs 29:16

¹⁶ When the wicked thrive, rebellion increases; but the righteous will see their downfall.

Proverbs 29:17

¹⁷ Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will bring delight to your soul.

Proverbs 29:18

¹⁸ Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the Law.

Proverbs 29:19

¹⁹ A servant cannot be corrected by words alone; though he understands, he will not respond.

Proverbs 29:20

²⁰ Do you see a man who speaks in haste? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

Proverbs 29:21

²¹ A servant pampered from his youth will bring grief in the end.

Proverbs 29:22

²² An angry man stirs up dissension, and a hot-tempered man abounds in transgression.

Proverbs 29:23

²³ A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor.

Proverbs 29:24

²⁴ A partner to a thief hates his own soul; he receives the oath but does not testify.

Proverbs 29:25

²⁵ The fear of man is a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is set securely on high.

Proverbs 29:26

²⁶ Many seek the ruler's favor, but a man receives justice from the LORD.

Proverbs 29:27

²⁷ An unjust man is detestable to the righteous, and one whose way is upright is detestable to the wicked.

Proverbs 30:1

¹ These are the words of Agur son of Jakeh—the burden that this man declared to Ithiel: "I am weary, O God, and worn out.

Proverbs 30:2

² Surely I am the most ignorant of men, and I lack the understanding of a man.

Proverbs 30:3

³ I have not learned wisdom, and I have no knowledge of the Holy One.

Proverbs 30:4

⁴ Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in His hands? Who has bound up the waters in His cloak? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is the name of His Son—surely you know!

Proverbs 30:5

⁵ Every word of God is flawless; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.

Proverbs 30:6

⁶ Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and prove you a liar.

Proverbs 30:7

⁷ Two things I ask of You—do not refuse me before I die:

Proverbs 30:8

⁸ Keep falsehood and deceitful words far from me. Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the bread that is my portion.

Proverbs 30:9

⁹ Otherwise, I may have too much and deny You, saying, 'Who is the LORD?' Or I may become poor and steal, profaning the name of my God.

Proverbs 30:10

¹⁰ Do not slander a servant to his master, or he will curse you, and you will bear the guilt.

Proverbs 30:11

¹¹ There is a generation of those who curse their fathers and do not bless their mothers.

Proverbs 30:12

¹² There is a generation of those who are pure in their own eyes and yet unwashed of their filth.

Proverbs 30:13

¹³ There is a generation—how haughty are their eyes and pretentious are their glances—

Proverbs 30:14

¹⁴ there is a generation whose teeth are swords and whose jaws are knives, devouring the oppressed from the earth and the needy from among men.

Proverbs 30:15

¹⁵ The leech has two daughters: Give and Give. There are three things that are never satisfied, four that never say, 'Enough!':

Proverbs 30:16

¹⁶ Sheol, the barren womb, land never satisfied with water, and fire that never says, 'Enough!'

Proverbs 30:17

¹⁷ As for the eye that mocks a father and scorns obedience to a mother, may the ravens of the valley pluck it out and young vultures devour it.

Proverbs 30:18

¹⁸ There are three things too wonderful for me, four that I cannot understand:

Proverbs 30:19

¹⁹ the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a snake on a rock, the way of a ship at sea, and the way of a man with a maiden.

Proverbs 30:20

²⁰ This is the way of an adulteress: She eats and wipes her mouth and says, 'I have done nothing wrong.'

Proverbs 30:21

²¹ Under three things the earth trembles, under four it cannot bear up:

Proverbs 30:22

²² a servant who becomes king, a fool who is filled with food,

Proverbs 30:23

²³ an unloved woman who marries, and a maidservant who supplants her mistress.

Proverbs 30:24

²⁴ Four things on earth are small, yet they are exceedingly wise:

Proverbs 30:25

²⁵ The ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer;

Proverbs 30:26

²⁶ the rock badgers are creatures of little power, yet they make their homes in the rocks;

Proverbs 30:27

²⁷ the locusts have no king, yet they all advance in formation;

Proverbs 30:28

²⁸ and the lizard can be caught in one's hands, yet it is found in the palaces of kings.

Proverbs 30:29

²⁹ There are three things that are stately in their stride, and four that are impressive in their walk:

Proverbs 30:30

³⁰ a lion, mighty among beasts, refusing to retreat before anything;

Proverbs 30:31

³¹ a strutting rooster; a he-goat; and a king with his army around him.

Proverbs 30:32

³² If you have foolishly exalted yourself or if you have plotted evil, put your hand over your mouth.

Proverbs 30:33

³³ For as the churning of milk yields butter, and the twisting of the nose draws blood, so the stirring of anger brings forth strife."

Proverbs 31:1

¹ These are the words of King Lemuel—the burden that his mother taught him:

Proverbs 31:2

² What shall I say, O my son? What, O son of my womb? What, O son of my vows?

Proverbs 31:3

³ Do not spend your strength on women or your vigor on those who ruin kings.

Proverbs 31:4

⁴ It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to crave strong drink,

Proverbs 31:5

⁵ lest they drink and forget what is decreed, depriving all the oppressed of justice.

Proverbs 31:6

⁶ Give strong drink to one who is perishing, and wine to the bitter in soul.

Proverbs 31:7

⁷ Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

Proverbs 31:8

⁸ Open your mouth for those with no voice, for the cause of all the dispossessed.

Proverbs 31:9

⁹ Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the poor and needy.

Proverbs 31:10

¹⁰ A wife of noble character, who can find? She is far more precious than rubies.

Proverbs 31:11

¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he lacks nothing of value.

Proverbs 31:12

¹² She brings him good and not harm all the days of her life.

Proverbs 31:13

¹³ She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

Proverbs 31:14

¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

Proverbs 31:15

¹⁵ She rises while it is still night to provide food for her household and portions for her maidservants.

Proverbs 31:16

¹⁶ She appraises a field and buys it; from her earnings she plants a vineyard.

Proverbs 31:17

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength and shows that her arms are strong.

Proverbs 31:18

¹⁸ She sees that her gain is good, and her lamp is not extinguished at night.

Proverbs 31:19

¹⁹ She stretches out her hands to the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

Proverbs 31:20

²⁰ She opens her arms to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

Proverbs 31:21

²¹ When it snows, she has no fear for her household, for they are all clothed in scarlet.

Proverbs 31:22

²² She makes coverings for her bed; her clothing is fine linen and purple.

Proverbs 31:23

²³ Her husband is known at the city gates, where he sits among the elders of the land.

Proverbs 31:24

²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchants.

Proverbs 31:25

²⁵ Strength and honor are her clothing, and she can laugh at the days to come.

Proverbs 31:26

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Proverbs 31:27

²⁷ She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Proverbs 31:28

²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband praises her as well:

Proverbs 31:29

²⁹ “Many daughters have done noble things, but you surpass them all!”

Proverbs 31:30

³⁰ Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Proverbs 31:31

³¹ Give her the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her at the gates.