### Proverbs

## Chapter 25

1These are the [proverbs] of Solomon that were recorded by friends of HezekiAh, the king of Judah.   
  
2God’s glory covers a matter;  
 But, kings view all things as important.  
  
3As the heavens are high over the earth…  
 So is the heart of a king.  
  
4Beating out unrefined silver  
 Is one way to make it more [pure].  
  
5Slay the impious surrounding the king,  
 And you’ll make his throne one of justice.  
  
6Don’t boast when you’re standing in front of the king,  
 Nor do it in gatherings of the mighty.  
  
7It’s better if [a king] says, ‘You may approach,’  
 Than to be humbled in the presence of the mighty.  
  
Tell the king only those things  
 That you’ve seen with your eyes.  
  
8Don’t be too quick to start fights;  
 Or in the end, you’ll wish you had not.  
  
Whenever a friend wants to scold you,  
 9Don’t pull away or get angry.  
 10For, if his scolding makes you hate him,  
 It’s the same as bringing his death.  
 Since favor and friendships bring freedom,  
 Pay close attention to the things that you do,  
 And give him no reasons to scold you…  
 Don’t do things that cause trouble!  
  
11As a gold apple in a pendant of rubies  
 Is the value of words that are wise.  
 12And as a gold earring with a setting of [gems]  
 Are wise words to ears that will listen.  
  
13A trustworthy messenger is like falling snow  
 In the heat of the harvest;  
 For he benefits the lives of all whom he tells.  
  
14As winds, clouds, and rain are apparent;  
 So is the man who chooses to boast  
 Of gifts that he didn’t give.  
  
15Patience before a king brings success,  
 And a mild reply will break bones.  
  
16When you find honey, just eat what’s enough,  
 Lest you should get filled and vomit it out.  
  
17Be sparing in the ways that you [visit] your friends  
 So they don’t get tired and start to detest you.  
  
18The same as clubs, swords, and arrows,  
 Is the person who slanders a friend.  
  
19For their evil, the lawless will die  
 In the bad days that are [coming].  
  
20As vinegar on a [cut] will bring [pain]  
 Is a heart in distress to its body.  
 Like a moth in [wool] clothes and as worms inside wood  
 Is how worry [will eat] a man’s heart.  
  
21If your enemy is hungry, you should feed him,  
 And if he’s thirsty, you should give him a drink!  
 22By this, you’ll pile burning coals on his head,  
 And Jehovah will repay you for the good things you did.  
  
23As a wind from the north will bring clouds…  
 An impudent tongue will cause aggravation.  
  
24It’s better to live on the corner of a roof  
 Than with a woman who likes to complain.  
  
25As cold water is enjoyed by the thirsty;  
 So is good news that comes from afar.  
  
26As unbecoming as plugging a spring,  
 Which results in wasting the water,  
 Is the fall of someone who’s righteous  
 Before those whose ways are impious.  
  
27As eating too much honey isn’t good;  
 Kind words can also give too much praise.  
  
28As a city without walls and protection  
 Is the person who won’t take advice.