### Proverbs

## Chapter 27

1Don’t boast of the things that you’ll do tomorrow;  
 For, [no one] knows what tomorrow will bring.  
  
2Let your praises come from your friends (not from you)…  
 Let them come from the lips of strangers (not yours).  
  
3Rocks and sand are heavy to bear;  
 But the rage of a fool is greater than both.  
  
4Rage has no mercy and anger is sharp;  
 But, before the zealous, no one can stand.  
  
5It’s better to offer correction  
 Than to use many flattering words.  
  
6The wounds of a friend can be trusted  
 More than an enemy’s kisses.  
  
7At honeycombs, the foolish will laugh;  
 And to the starving, what’s bitter tastes sweet.  
  
8Like a bird that flies from its nest,  
 Is the man who strays from his home.  
  
9Perfume, incense, and wine  
 Can make the heart very happy;  
 But, things that go wrong will shatter a soul.  
  
10Don’t leave a friend or a friend of your father,  
 And in hard times, don’t go to the house of your brother.  
 For a friend who’s near is much better  
 Than a brother who lives far away.  
  
11Become wise, my son, and make my heart glad…  
 Don’t shout hateful words!  
  
12When the clever see evil, they flee;  
 But a fool passing by gets involved.  
  
13Take the clothes from the man who shouts insults  
 And from one who destroys the goods of a stranger.  
  
14Shouting praises of a friend too early in the day  
 Is the same as when you shout curses.  
  
15As a house leaking rain in the winter;  
 A nagging wife drives a man from his home.  
  
16Since wind from the north blows so hard,  
 It’s fittingly called the north wind.  
  
17As iron is sharpened by iron;  
 A man can sharpen the face of a friend.  
  
18The man who’s planting a fig tree  
 Is the one who’ll gather its fruit;  
 And the man who guards [the life of] his master  
 Is the one who’ll be held in esteem.  
  
19As faces aren’t like other faces;  
 Men’s hearts are also quite different.  
  
20As the grave and destruction can never be filled;  
 The eyes of men can’t be satisfied.  
 But the [desires] of the eyes are disgusting to [God],  
 As are the stupid that don’t mind their tongues.  
  
21As silver and gold are refined in a fire;  
 A man is refined by correction.  
  
22You can dishonor a fool with a whip before crowds,  
 But you can’t drive his foolishness from him.  
  
23Know the condition of the lives of your flock,  
 And keep your herd in your heart.  
  
24A man’s might and strength won’t last throughout the ages…  
 Through generations, he can’t retain them.  
  
25If you tend the greens that grow in your field,  
 You’ll take their cuttings for food.  
 And if you’ll gather hay from the hills,  
 26You’ll also have wool for your clothes.  
 Therefore, hold your fields in high esteem,  
 So you can own many lambs.  
  
27O son,  
  
All of these proverbs that I’ve spoken  
 Will add many years to your life…  
 And they’ll also bring life to your servants.