### Proverbs

## Chapter 9

1Wisdom has built a house for himself,  
 And atop 7 columns, he’s propped it.  
 2He has offered the needed sacrifices…  
 He’s mixed the wine in their jars,  
 And he has readied his table.  
 3Then he sends his servants to call [all the guests],  
 And with a grand proclamation, he says:  
  
 4‘All you who are foolish; turn here to me!’  
  
5He says to those who are lacking good sense:  
  
 ‘Come eat my bread and drink my wine  
 That I’ve mixed up for you!  
 6Stop being a fool, become smarter,  
 So you’ll live a long time…  
 Get straight with wisdom and knowledge!’  
  
7Those who attempt to straighten the godless,  
 Upon themselves, bring dishonor.  
 For, when you scold those who have no respect,  
 You just make a fool of yourself.  
  
8So, don’t scold those who are evil,  
 For they’ll just start to detest you!  
 But, reprove the wise and they’ll love you…  
 9Give them help and they’ll be wiser…  
 An explanation to those who are righteous,  
 Will thereafter, bring them much more.  
  
10Wisdom starts with the fear of Jehovah,  
 And counsel about holiness brings understanding.  
 Also, knowledge of the Law is good to consider;  
 11For if you learn it, you’ll live a long time…  
 Many years, it’ll add to your life.  
  
12O son; if you choose to seek wisdom,  
 You’ll make yourself wise.  
 But, if you choose to seek evil,  
 You’ll just bring bad things on yourself.  
  
13A woman without food who’s foolish and bold,  
 Has no knowledge of shame.  
 14She sits at the door of her house in a chair  
 To make herself seen in the square.  
  
15Then she calls out to those who pass on the street,  
 And to those who are walking straight paths:  
  
 16‘You who are the most foolish;  
 Turn aside and come here to me!’  
  
She arouses the stupid by saying:  
  
 17‘You’ll touch secret bread loaves in pleasure,  
 And steal sweet water to drink!’  
  
18But the thing that they don’t understand,  
 Is that she brings destruction upon earthly men…  
 That she’s perching them on the edge to the grave!