**CHAPTER** **5**

*We must not presume of our wealth or strength: nor of the mercy of God, to go in sin: we must be steadfast in virtue and truth.*

**1** Set not thy heart upon unjust possessions, and say not: I have enough to live on: for it shall be of no service in the time of vengeance and darkness.

**2** Follow not in thy strength the desires of thy heart:

**3** And say not: How mighty am I? and who shall bring me under for my deeds? for God will surely take revenge.

**4** Say not: I have sinned, and what harm hath befallen me? for the most High is a patient rewarder.

**5** Be not without fear about sin forgiven, and add not sin upon sin:

**6** And say not: The mercy of the Lord is great, he will have mercy on the multitude of my sins.

**7** For mercy and wrath quickly come from him, and his wrath looketh upon sinners.

**8** Delay not to be converted to the Lord, and defer it not from day to day.

**9** For his wrath shall come on a sudden, and in the time of vengeance he will destroy thee.

**10** Be not anxious for goods unjustly gotten: for they shall not profit thee in the day of calamity and revenge.

**11** Winnow not with every wind, and go not into every way: for so is every sinner proved by a double tongue.

**12** Be steadfast in the way of the Lord, and in the truth of thy judgment, and in knowledge, and let the word of peace and justice keep with thee.

**13** Be meek to hear the word, that thou mayst understand: and return a true answer with wisdom.

**14** If thou have understanding, answer thy neighbour: but if not, let thy hand be upon thy mouth, lest thou be surprised in an unskilful word, and be confounded.

**15** Honour and glory is in the word of the wise, but the tongue of the fool is his ruin.

**16** Be not called a whisperer, and be not taken in thy tongue, and confounded.

**17** For confusion and repentance is upon a thief, and an evil mark of disgrace upon the double tongued, but to the whisperer hatred, and enmity, and reproach.

**18** Justify alike the small and the great.