**CHAPTER** **9**

*Wisdom invites all to her feast. Folly calls another way.*

**1** Wisdom hath built herself a house, she hath hewn her out seven pillars.

**2** She hath slain her victims, mingled her wine, and set forth her table.

**3** She hath sent her maids to invite to the tower, and to the walls of the city:

**4** Whosoever is a little one, let him come to me. And to the unwise she said:

**5** Come, eat my bread, and drink the wine which I have mingled for you.

**6** Forsake childishness, and live, and walk by the ways of prudence.

**7** He that teacheth a scorner, doth an injury to himself: and he that rebuketh a wicked man, getteth himself a blot.

**8** Rebuke not a scorner lest he hate thee. Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

**9** Give an occasion to a wise man, and wisdom shall be added to him. Teach a just man, and he shall make haste to receive it.

**10** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is prudence.

**11** For by me shall thy days be multiplied, and years of life shall be added to thee.

**12** If thou be wise, thou shalt be so to thyself: and if a scorner, thou alone shalt bear the evil.

**13** A foolish woman and clamorous, and full of allurements, and knowing nothing at all,

**14** Sat at the door of her house, upon a seat, in a high place of the city,

**15** To call them that pass by the way, and go on their journey:

**16** He that is a little one, let him turn to me. And to the fool she said:

**17** Stolen waters are sweeter, and hidden bread is more pleasant.

**18** And he did not know that giants are there, and that her guests are in the depths of hell.