

Proverbs

Proverbs Chapter 1

¹The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

²To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

³To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

⁴To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

⁵A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

⁶To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

⁷The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

⁸My son, hear the instruction of your father, and forsake not the law of your mother:

⁹For they shall be an ornament of grace unto your head, and chains about your neck.

¹⁰My son, if sinners entice you, consent you not.

¹¹If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:

¹²Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:

¹³We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

¹⁴Cast in your lot among us; let us all have one purse:

¹⁵My son, walk not you in the way with them; refrain your foot from their path:

¹⁶For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

¹⁷Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

¹⁸And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.

¹⁹So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which takes away the life of the owners thereof.

²⁰Wisdom cries without; she utters her voice in the streets:

²¹She cries in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she utters her words, saying,

²²How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

²³Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

²⁴Because I have called, and you refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

²⁵But you have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

²⁶I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes;

²⁷When your fear comes as desolation, and your destruction comes as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish comes upon you.

²⁸Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

²⁹For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord:

³⁰They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

³¹Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

³²For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

³³But whoever hearkens unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Proverbs Chapter 2

¹My son, if you will receive my words, and hide my commandments with you;

²So that you incline yours ear unto wisdom, and apply yours heart to understanding;

³Yea, if you cry after knowledge, and lift up your voice for understanding;

⁴If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hid treasures;

⁵Then shall you understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.

⁶For the Lord gives wisdom: out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

⁷He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

⁸He keeps the paths of judgment, and preserves the way of his saints.

⁹Then shall you understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

¹⁰When wisdom enters into yours heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto your soul;

¹¹Discretion shall preserve you, understanding shall keep you:

¹²To deliver you from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaks froward things;

¹³Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;

¹⁴Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked;

¹⁵Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

¹⁶To deliver you from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flatters with her words;

¹⁷Which forsakes the guide of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her God.

¹⁸For her house inclines unto death, and her paths unto the dead.

¹⁹None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.

²⁰That you may walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.

²¹For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.

²²But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

Proverbs Chapter 3

¹My son, forget not my law; but let yours heart keep my commandments:

²For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to you.

³Let not mercy and truth forsake you: bind them about your neck; write them upon the table of yours heart:

⁴So shall you find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

⁵Trust in the Lord with all yours heart; and lean not unto yours own understanding.

⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths.

⁷Be not wise in yours own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

⁸It shall be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones.

⁹Honour the Lord with your substance, and with the firstfruits of all yours increase:

¹⁰So shall your barns be filled with plenty, and your presses shall burst out with new wine.

¹¹My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction:

¹²For whom the Lord loves he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delights.

¹³Happy is the man that finds wisdom, and the man that gets understanding.

¹⁴For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

¹⁵She is more precious than rubies: and all the things you can desire are not to be compared unto her.

¹⁶Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

¹⁸She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retains her.

¹⁹The Lord by wisdom has founded the earth; by understanding has he established the heavens.

²⁰By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

²¹My son, let not them depart from yours eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:

²²So shall they be life unto your soul, and grace to your neck.

²³Then shall you walk in your way safely, and your foot shall not stumble.

²⁴When you lie down, you shall not be afraid: yea, you shall lie down, and your sleep shall be sweet.

²⁵Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it comes.

²⁶For the Lord shall be your confidence, and shall keep your foot from being taken.

²⁷Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of yours hand to do it.

²⁸Say not unto your neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when you have it by you.

²⁹Devise not evil against your neighbour, seeing he dwells securely by you.

³⁰Strive not with a man without cause, if he have done you no harm.

³¹Envy you not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

³²For the froward is abomination to the Lord: but his secret is with the righteous.

³³The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked: but he blesses the habitation of the just.

³⁴Surely he scorns the scorers: but he gives grace unto the lowly.

³⁵The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.

Proverbs Chapter 4

¹Hear, you children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

²For I give you good doctrine, forsake you not my law.

³For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

⁴He taught me also, and said unto me, Let yours heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

⁵Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

⁶Forsake her not, and she shall preserve you: love her, and she shall keep you.

⁷Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all your getting get understanding.

⁸Exalt her, and she shall promote you: she shall bring you to honour, when you do embrace her.

⁹She shall give to yours head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to you.

¹⁰Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of your life shall be many.

¹¹I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths.

¹²When you go, your steps shall not be straitened; and when you runnest, you shall not stumble.

¹³Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is your life.

¹⁴Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men.

¹⁵Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

¹⁶For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall.

¹⁷For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shines more and more unto the perfect day.

¹⁹The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

²⁰My son, attend to my words; incline yours ear unto my sayings.

²¹Let them not depart from yours eyes; keep them in the midst of yours heart.

²²For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

²³Keep your heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

²⁴Put away from you a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from you.

²⁵Let yours eyes look right on, and let yours eyelids look straight before you.

²⁶Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established.

²⁷Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove your foot from evil.

Proverbs Chapter 5

¹My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow yours ear to my understanding:

²That you may regard discretion, and that your lips may keep knowledge.

³For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

⁴But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.

⁵Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

⁶Lest you should ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that you can not know them.

⁷Hear me now therefore, O you children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

⁸Remove your way far from her, and come not nigh(near) the door of her house:

⁹Lest you give yours honour unto others, and your years unto the cruel:

¹⁰Lest strangers be filled with your wealth; and your labours be in the house of a stranger;

¹¹And you mourn at the last, when your flesh and your body are consumed,

¹²And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;

¹³And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

¹⁴I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.

¹⁵Drink waters out of yours own cistern, and running waters out of yours own well.

¹⁶Let your fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets.

¹⁷Let them be only yours own, and not strangers' with you.

¹⁸Let your fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of your youth.

¹⁹Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy you at all times; and be you ravished always with her love.

²⁰And why will you, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

²¹For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his goings.

²²His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

²³He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

Proverbs Chapter 6

¹My son, if you be surety for your friend, if you have stricken your hand with a stranger,

²You are snared with the words of your mouth, you are taken with the words of your mouth.

³Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself, when you are come into the hand of your friend; go, humble yourself, and make sure your friend.

⁴Give not sleep to yours eyes, nor slumber to yours eyelids.

⁵Deliver yourself as a roe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler.

⁶Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

⁷Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

⁸Provides her meat in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.

⁹How long will you sleep, O sluggard? when will you arise out of your sleep?

¹⁰Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

¹¹So shall your poverty come as one that travelleth, and your want as an armed man.

¹²A naughty person, a wicked man, walks with a froward mouth.

¹³He winks with his eyes, he speaks with his feet, he teaches with his fingers;

¹⁴Frowardness is in his heart, he devises mischief continually; he sows discord.

¹⁵Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.

¹⁶These six things does the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

¹⁷A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

¹⁸An heart that devises wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

¹⁹A false witness that speaks lies, and he that sows discord among brethren.

²⁰My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not the law of your mother:

²¹Bind them continually upon yours heart, and tie them about your neck.

²²When you go, it shall lead you; when you sleep, it shall keep you; and when you awake, it shall talk with you.

²³For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

²⁴To keep you from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

²⁵Lust not after her beauty in yours heart; neither let her take you with her eyelids.

²⁶For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

²⁷Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

²⁸Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?

²⁹So he that goes in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever touches her shall not be innocent.

³⁰Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry;

³¹But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.

³²But whoever committs adultery with a woman lacks understanding: he that does it destroys his own soul.

³³A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

³⁴For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

³⁵He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though you give many gifts.

Proverbs Chapter 7

¹My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with you.

²Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of yours eye.

³Bind them upon your fingers, write them upon the table of yours heart.

⁴Say unto wisdom, You are my sister; and call understanding your kinswoman:

⁵That they may keep you from the strange woman, from the stranger which flatters with her words.

⁶For at the window of my house I looked through my casement,

⁷And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,

⁸Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

⁹In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:

¹⁰And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart.

¹¹(She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house:

¹²Now is she without, now in the streets, and lies in wait at every corner.)

¹³So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him,

¹⁴I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows.

¹⁵Therefore came I forth to meet you, diligently to seek your face, and I have found you.

¹⁶I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt.

¹⁷I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

¹⁸Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves.

¹⁹For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey:

²⁰He has taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed.

²¹With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

²²He goes after her straightway, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;

²³Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hastes to the snare, and knows not that it is for his life.

²⁴Hearken unto me now therefore, O you children, and attend to the words of my mouth.

²⁵Let not yours heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

²⁶For she has cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her.

²⁷Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

Proverbs Chapter 8

¹Does not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?

²She stands in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.

³She cries at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.

⁴Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.

⁵O you simple, understand wisdom: and, you fools, be you of an understanding heart.

⁶Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.

⁷For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

⁸All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

⁹They are all plain to him that understands, and right to them that find knowledge.

¹⁰Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.

¹¹For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

¹²I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

¹³The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

¹⁴Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

¹⁵By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

¹⁶By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

¹⁷I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

¹⁸Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness.

¹⁹My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.

²⁰I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment:

²¹That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

²²The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

²³I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

²⁴When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

²⁵Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:

²⁶While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.

²⁷When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:

²⁸When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

²⁹When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

³⁰Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;

³¹Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.

³²Now therefore hearken unto me, O you children: for blessed are they that keep my ways.

³³Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

³⁴Blessed is the man that hears me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

³⁵For whoever finds me finds life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.

³⁶But he that sins against me wrongs his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Proverbs Chapter 9

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn out her seven pillars:

²She has killed her beasts; she has mingled her wine; she has also furnished her table.

³She has sent forth her maidens: she cries upon the highest places of the city,

⁴Whoever is simple, let him turn in here: as for him that wants understanding, she says to him,

⁵Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.

⁶Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding.

⁷He that reproves a scorner gets to himself shame: and he that rebukes a wicked man gets himself a blot.

⁸Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate you: rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.

⁹Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

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

¹¹For by me your days shall be multiplied, and the years of your life shall be increased.

¹²If you be wise, you shall be wise for yourself: but if you scornest, you alone shall bear it.

¹³A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knows nothing.

¹⁴For she sits at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city,

¹⁵To call passengers who go right on their ways:

¹⁶Whoever is simple, let him turn in here: and as for him that wants understanding, she says to him,

¹⁷Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.

¹⁸But he knows not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.

Proverbs Chapter 10

¹The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son makes a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

²Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivers from death.

³The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casts away the substance of the wicked.

⁴He becomes poor that deals with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

⁵He that gathers in summer is a wise son: but he that sleeps in harvest is a son that causes shame.

⁶Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

⁷The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

⁸The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.

⁹He that walks uprightly walks surely: but he that perverts his ways shall be known.

¹⁰He that winks with the eye causes sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.

¹¹The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

¹²Hatred stirs up strifes: but love covers all sins.

¹³In the lips of him that has understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

¹⁴Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

¹⁵The rich man's wealth is his strong city: the destruction of the poor is their poverty.

¹⁶The labour of the righteous tends to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin.

¹⁷He is in the way of life that keeps instruction: but he that refuses reproof erreth.

¹⁸He that hides hatred with lying lips, and he that utters a slander, is a fool.

¹⁹In the multitude of words there wants not sin: but he that refrains his lips is wise.

²⁰The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth.

²¹The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

²²The blessing of the Lord, it makes rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

²³It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding has wisdom.

²⁴The fear of the wicked, it shall come upon him: but the desire of the righteous shall be granted.

²⁵As the whirlwind passes, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

²⁶As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to them that send him.

²⁷The fear of the Lord prolongs days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

²⁸The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.

²⁹The way of the Lord is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

³⁰The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

³¹The mouth of the just brings forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out.

³²The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaks frowardness.

Proverbs Chapter 11

¹A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight.

²When pride comes, then comes shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

³The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

⁴Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivers from death.

⁵The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

⁶The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.

⁷When a wicked man dies, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perishes.

⁸The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked comes in his stead.

⁹An hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

¹⁰When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting.

¹¹By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

¹²He that is void of wisdom despises his neighbour: but a man of understanding holds his peace.

¹³A talebearer reveals secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit conceals the matter.

¹⁴Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

¹⁵He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hates suretiship is sure.

¹⁶A gracious woman retains honour: and strong men retain riches.

¹⁷The merciful man does good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubles his own flesh.

¹⁸The wicked works a deceitful work: but to him that sows righteousness shall be a sure reward.

¹⁹As righteousness tends to life: so he that pursues evil pursues it to his own death.

²⁰They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the Lord: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

²¹Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

²²As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.

²³The desire of the righteous is only good: but the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

²⁴There is that scatters, and yet increases; and there is that withholds more than is meet, but it tends to poverty.

²⁵The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that waters shall be watered also himself.

²⁶He that withholds corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that sells it.

²⁷He that diligently seeks good procures favour: but he that seeks mischief, it shall come unto him.

²⁸He that trusts in his riches shall fall; but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

²⁹He that troubles his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

³⁰The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that wins souls is wise.

³¹Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Proverbs Chapter 12

¹Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge: but he that hates reproof is brutish.

²A good man obtains favour of the Lord: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

³A man shall not be established by wickedness: but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.

⁴A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that makes ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

⁵The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.

⁶The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.

⁷The wicked are overthrown, and are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand.

⁸A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.

⁹He that is despised, and has a servant, is better than he that honours himself, and lacks bread.

¹⁰A righteous man regards the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

¹¹He that tills his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that follows vain persons is void of understanding.

¹²The wicked desires the net of evil men: but the root of the righteous yields fruit.

¹³The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

¹⁴A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

¹⁵The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkens unto counsel is wise.

¹⁶A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covers shame.

¹⁷He that speaks truth shows forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

¹⁸There is that speaks like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

¹⁹The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

²⁰Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

²¹There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief.

²²Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.

²³A prudent man conceals knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

²⁴The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

²⁵Heaviness in the heart of man makes it stoop: but a good word makes it glad.

²⁶The righteous is more excellent than his neighbour: but the way of the wicked seduces them.

²⁷The slothful man roasts not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

²⁸In the way of righteousness is life: and in the pathway thereof there is no death.

Proverbs Chapter 13

¹A wise son hears his father's instruction: but a scorner hears not rebuke.

²A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

³He that keeps his mouth keeps his life: but he that opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

⁴The soul of the sluggard desires, and has nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

⁵A righteous man hates lying: but a wicked man is loathsome, and comes to shame.

⁶Righteousness keeps him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthrows the sinner.

⁷There is that makes himself rich, yet has nothing: there is that makes himself poor, yet has great riches.

⁸The ransom of a man's life are his riches: but the poor hears not rebuke.

⁹The light of the righteous rejoices: but the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.

¹⁰Only by pride comes contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

¹¹Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathers by labour shall increase.

¹²Hope deferred makes the heart sick: but when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.

¹³Whoever despises the word shall be destroyed: but he that fears the commandment shall be rewarded.

¹⁴The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

¹⁵Good understanding gives favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

¹⁶Every prudent man deals with knowledge: but a fool lays open his folly.

¹⁷A wicked messenger falls into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.

¹⁸Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuses instruction: but he that regards reproof shall be honoured.

¹⁹The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil.

²⁰He that walks with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

²¹Evil pursues sinners: but to the righteous good shall be repayed.

²²A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

²³Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.

²⁴He that spares his rod hates his son: but he that loves him chastens him betimes.

²⁵The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul: but the belly of the wicked shall want.

Proverbs Chapter 14

¹Every wise woman builds her house: but the foolish plucks it down with her hands.

²He that walks in his uprightness fears the Lord: but he that is perverse in his ways despises him.

³In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.

⁴Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.

⁵A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

⁶A scorner seeks wisdom, and finds it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understands.

⁷Go from the presence of a foolish man, when you perceive not in him the lips of knowledge.

⁸The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit.

⁹Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.

¹⁰The heart knows his own bitterness; and a stranger does not intermeddle with his joy.

¹¹The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish.

¹²There is a way which seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

¹³Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness.

¹⁴The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.

¹⁵The simple believes every word: but the prudent man looks well to his going.

¹⁶A wise man fears, and departs from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.

¹⁷He that is soon angry deals foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated.

¹⁸The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

¹⁹The evil bow before the good; and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

²⁰The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the rich has many friends.

²¹He that despises his neighbour sins: but he that has mercy on the poor, happy is he.

²²Do they not err that devise evil? but mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good.

²³In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tends only to penury.

²⁴The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly.

²⁵A true witness delivers souls: but a deceitful witness speaks lies.

²⁶In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.

²⁷The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

²⁸In the multitude of people is the king's honour: but in the want of people is the destruction of the prince.

²⁹He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalts folly.

³⁰A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

³¹He that oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker: but he that honours him has mercy on the poor.

³²The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous has hope in his death.

³³Wisdom rests in the heart of him that has understanding: but that which is in the midst of fools is made known.

³⁴Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

³⁵The king's favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causes shame.

Proverbs Chapter 15

¹A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

²The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.

³The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

⁴A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.

⁵A fool despises his father's instruction: but he that regards reproof is prudent.

⁶In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

⁷The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish does not so.

⁸The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

⁹The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord: but he loves him that follows after righteousness.

¹⁰Correction is grievous unto him that forsakes the way: and he that hates reproof shall die.

¹¹Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

¹²A scorner loves not one that reproves him: neither will he go unto the wise.

¹³A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

¹⁴The heart of him that has understanding seeks knowledge: but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

¹⁵All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart has a continual feast.

¹⁶Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.

¹⁷Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

¹⁸A wrathful man stirs up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeases strife.

¹⁹The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain.

²⁰A wise son makes a glad father: but a foolish man despises his mother.

²¹Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walks uprightly.

²²Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

²³A man has joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

²⁴The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.

²⁵The Lord will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

²⁶The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord: but the words of the pure are pleasant words.

²⁷He that is greedy of gain troubles his own house; but he that hates gifts shall live.

²⁸The heart of the righteous studies to answer: but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

²⁹The Lord is far from the wicked: but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

³⁰The light of the eyes rejoices the heart: and a good report makes the bones fat.

³¹The ear that hears the reproof of life abides among the wise.

³²He that refuses instruction despises his own soul: but he that hears reproof gets understanding.

³³The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

Proverbs Chapter 16

¹The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the Lord.

²All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weighs the spirits.

³Commit your works unto the Lord, and your thoughts shall be established.

⁴The Lord has made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

⁵Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

⁶By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.

⁷When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

⁸Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

⁹A man's heart devises his way: but the Lord directs his steps.

¹⁰A divine sentence is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresses not in judgment.

¹¹A just weight and balance are the Lord's: all the weights of the bag are his work.

¹²It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness.

¹³Righteous lips are the delight of kings; and they love him that speaks right.

¹⁴The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacify it.

¹⁵In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.

¹⁶How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

¹⁷The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keeps his way preserves his soul.

¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

¹⁹Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

²⁰He that handles a matter wisely shall find good: and whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he.

²¹The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increases learning.

²²Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that has it: but the instruction of fools is folly.

²³The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips.

²⁴Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

²⁵There is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

²⁶He that labours labours for himself; for his mouth craves it of him.

²⁷An ungodly man digs up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire.

²⁸A froward man sows strife: and a whisperer separates chief friends.

²⁹A violent man entices his neighbour, and leads him into the way that is not good.

³⁰He shuts his eyes to devise froward things: moving his lips he brings evil to pass.

³¹The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.

³²He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that rules his spirit than he that takes a city.

³³The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord.

Proverbs Chapter 17

¹Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife.

²A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causes shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.

³The fining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the Lord tries the hearts.

⁴A wicked doer gives heed to false lips; and a liar gives ear to a naughty tongue.

⁵Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker: and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.

⁶Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

⁷Excellent speech becomes not a fool: much less do lying lips a prince.

⁸A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that has it: whithersoever it turns, it prospers.

⁹He that covers a transgression seeks love; but he that repeats a matter separates very friends.

¹⁰A reproof enters more into a wise man than a hundred stripes into a fool.

¹¹An evil man seeks only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.

¹²Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.

¹³Whoever rewards evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.

¹⁴The beginning of strife is as when one lets out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.

¹⁵He that justifies the wicked, and he that condemns the just, even they both are abomination to the Lord.

¹⁶Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he has no heart to it?

¹⁷A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

¹⁸A man void of understanding strikes hands, and becomes surety in the presence of his friend.

¹⁹He loves transgression that loves strife: and he that exalts his gate seeks destruction.

²⁰He that has a froward heart finds no good: and he that has a perverse tongue falls into mischief.

²¹He that begets a fool does it to his sorrow: and the father of a fool has no joy.

²²A merry heart does good like a medicine: but a broken spirit dries the bones.

²³A wicked man takes a gift out of the bosom to pervert the ways of judgment.

²⁴Wisdom is before him that has understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.

²⁵A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him.

²⁶Also to punish the just is not good, nor to strike princes for equity.

²⁷He that has knowledge spares his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

²⁸Even a fool, when he holds his peace, is counted wise: and he that shuts his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

Proverbs Chapter 18

¹Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeks and intermeddles with all wisdom.

²A fool has no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself.

³When the wicked comes, then comes also contempt, and with ignominy reproach.

⁴The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.

⁵It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.

⁶A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calls for strokes.

⁷A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.

⁸The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

⁹He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

¹⁰The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runs into it, and is safe.

¹¹The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.

¹²Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.

¹³He that answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame unto him.

¹⁴The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

¹⁵The heart of the prudent gets knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

¹⁶A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.

¹⁷He that is first in his own cause seems just; but his neighbour comes and searches him.

¹⁸The lot causes contentions to cease, and parts between the mighty.

¹⁹A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.

²⁰A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

²¹Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

²²Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favour of the Lord.

²³The poor uses intreaties; but the rich answers roughly.

²⁴A man that has friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs Chapter 19

¹Better is the poor that walks in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

²Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hastes with his feet sins.

³The foolishness of man perverts his way: and his heart frets against the Lord.

⁴Wealth makes many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour.

⁵A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaks lies shall not escape.

⁶Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man is a friend to him that gives gifts.

⁷All the brethren of the poor do hate him: how much more do his friends go far from him? he pursues them with words, yet they are wanting to him.

⁸He that gets wisdom loves his own soul: he that keeps understanding shall find good.

⁹A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaks lies shall perish.

¹⁰Delight is not seemly for a fool; much less for a servant to have rule over princes.

¹¹The discretion of a man defers his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

¹²The king's wrath is as the roaring of a lion; but his favour is as dew upon the grass.

¹³A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.

¹⁴House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the Lord.

¹⁵Slothfulness casts into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

¹⁶He that keeps the commandment keeps his own soul; but he that despises his ways shall die.

¹⁷He that has pity upon the poor lends unto the Lord; and that which he has given will he pay him again.

¹⁸Chasten your son while there is hope, and let not your soul spare for his crying.

¹⁹A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if you deliver him, yet you must do it again.

²⁰Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter end.

²¹There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand.

²²The desire of a man is his kindness: and a poor man is better than a liar.

²³The fear of the Lord tends to life: and he that has it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

²⁴A slothful man hides his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

²⁵Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that has understanding, and he will understand knowledge.

²⁶He that wastes his father, and chases away his mother, is a son that causes shame, and brings reproach.

²⁷Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causes to err from the words of knowledge.

²⁸An ungodly witness scorns judgment: and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.

²⁹Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools.

Proverbs Chapter 20

¹Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

²The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoever provokes him to anger sins against his own soul.

³It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.

⁴The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

⁵Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.

⁶Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

⁷The just man walks in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

⁸A king that sits in the throne of judgment scatters away all evil with his eyes.

⁹Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?

¹⁰Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the Lord.

¹¹Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

¹²The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord has made even both of them.

¹³Love not sleep, lest you come to poverty; open yours eyes, and you shall be satisfied with bread.

¹⁴It is naught, it is naught, says the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasts.

¹⁵There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

¹⁶Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

¹⁷Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

¹⁸Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.

¹⁹He that goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flatters with his lips.

²⁰Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.

²¹An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.

²²Say not you, I will recompense evil; but wait on the Lord, and he shall save you.

²³Divers weights are an abomination unto the Lord; and a false balance is not good.

²⁴Man's goings are of the Lord; how can a man then understand his own way?

²⁵It is a snare to the man who devours that which is holy, and after vows to make enquiry.

²⁶A wise king scatters the wicked, and brings the wheel over them.

²⁷The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

²⁸Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.

²⁹The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head.

³⁰The blueness of a wound cleanses away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

Proverbs Chapter 21

¹The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turns it whithersoever he will.

²Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord ponders the hearts.

³To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

⁴An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.

⁵The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

⁶The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.

⁷The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment.

⁸The way of man is froward and strange: but as for the pure, his work is right.

⁹It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.

¹⁰The soul of the wicked desires evil: his neighbour finds no favour in his eyes.

¹¹When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.

¹²The righteous man wisely considers the house of the wicked: but God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness.

- ¹³Whoever stops his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.
- ¹⁴A gift in secret pacifies anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath.
- ¹⁵It is joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.
- ¹⁶The man that wanders out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.
- ¹⁷He that loves pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loves wine and oil shall not be rich.
- ¹⁸The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.
- ¹⁹It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.
- ²⁰There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spends it up.
- ²¹He that follows after righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness, and honour.
- ²²A wise man scales the city of the mighty, and casts down the strength of the confidence thereof.
- ²³Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.
- ²⁴Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who deals in proud wrath.
- ²⁵The desire of the slothful kills him; for his hands refuse to labour.
- ²⁶He covets greedily all the day long: but the righteous gives and spares not.
- ²⁷The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination: how much more, when he brings it with a wicked mind?
- ²⁸A false witness shall perish: but the man that hears speaks constantly.
- ²⁹A wicked man hardens his face: but as for the upright, he directs his way.
- ³⁰There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the Lord.
- ³¹The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord.
- ⁴By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life.
- ⁵Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that does keep his soul shall be far from them.
- ⁶Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
- ⁷The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.
- ⁸He that sows iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.
- ⁹He that has a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he gives of his bread to the poor.
- ¹⁰Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.
- ¹¹He that loves pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.
- ¹²The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge, and he overthrows the words of the transgressor.
- ¹³The slothful man says, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.
- ¹⁴The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the Lord shall fall therein.
- ¹⁵Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.
- ¹⁶He that oppresses the poor to increase his riches, and he that gives to the rich, shall surely come to want.
- ¹⁷Bow down yours ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply yours heart unto my knowledge.
- ¹⁸For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; they shall withal be fitted in your lips.
- ¹⁹That your trust may be in the Lord, I have made known to you this day, even to you.
- ²⁰Have not I written to you excellent things in counsels and knowledge,
- ²¹That I might make you know the certainty of the words of truth; that you might answer the words of truth to them that send unto you?
- ²²Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted in the gate:
- ²³For the Lord will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.
- ²⁴Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man you shall not go:
- ²⁵Lest you learn his ways, and get a snare to your soul.

Proverbs Chapter 22

- ¹A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.
- ²The rich and poor meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all.
- ³A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

²⁶Be not you one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts.

²⁷If you have nothing to pay, why should he take away your bed from under you?

²⁸Remove not the ancient landmark, which your fathers have set.

²⁹See you a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs Chapter 23

¹When you sit to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before you:

²And put a knife to your throat, if you be a man given to appetite.

³Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are deceitful meat.

⁴Labour not to be rich: cease from yours own wisdom.

⁵Wilt you set yours eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

⁶Eat you not the bread of him that has an evil eye, neither desire you his dainty meats:

⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, says he to you; but his heart is not with you.

⁸The morsel which you have eaten shall you vomit up, and lose your sweet words.

⁹Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of your words.

¹⁰Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:

¹¹For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with you.

¹²Apply yours heart unto instruction, and yours ears to the words of knowledge.

¹³Withhold not correction from the child: for if you beat him with the rod, he shall not die.

¹⁴You shall beat him with the rod, and shall deliver his soul from hell.

¹⁵My son, if yours heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.

¹⁶Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when your lips speak right things.

¹⁷Let not yours heart envy sinners: but be you in the fear of the Lord all the day long.

¹⁸For surely there is an end; and yours expectation shall not be cut off.

¹⁹Hear you, my son, and be wise, and guide yours heart in the way.

²⁰Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:

²¹For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

²²Hearken unto your father that begat you, and despise not your mother when she is old.

²³Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

²⁴The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begets a wise child shall have joy of him.

²⁵Your father and your mother shall be glad, and she that bare you shall rejoice.

²⁶My son, give me yours heart, and let yours eyes observe my ways.

²⁷For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit.

²⁸She also lies in wait as for a prey, and increases the transgressors among men.

²⁹Who has woe? who has sorrow? who has contentions? who has babbling? who has wounds without cause? who has redness of eyes?

³⁰They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

³¹Look not you upon the wine when it is red, when it gives his colour in the cup, when it moves itself aright.

³²At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder.

³³Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and yours heart shall utter perverse things.

³⁴Yea, you shall be as he that lies down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lies upon the top of a mast.

³⁵They have stricken me, shall you say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

Proverbs Chapter 24

¹Be not you envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them.

²For their heart studies destruction, and their lips talk of mischief.

³Through wisdom is an house built; and by understanding it is established:

⁴And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

⁵A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increases strength.

⁶For by wise counsel you shall make your war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.

⁷Wisdom is too high for a fool: he opens not his mouth in the gate.

⁸He that devises to do evil shall be called a mischievous person.

⁹The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.

¹⁰If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.

¹¹If you forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain;

¹²If you say, Behold, we knew it not; does not he that ponders the heart consider it? and he that keeps your soul, does not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

¹³My son, eat you honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to your taste:

¹⁴So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto your soul: when you have found it, then there shall be a reward, and your expectation shall not be cut off.

¹⁵Lay not wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; spoil not his resting place:

¹⁶For a just man falls seven times, and rises up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

¹⁷Rejoice not when yours enemy falls, and let not yours heart be glad when he stumbles:

¹⁸Lest the Lord see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.

¹⁹Fret not yourself because of evil men, neither be you envious at the wicked:

²⁰For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out.

²¹My son, fear you the Lord and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change:

²²For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knows the ruin of them both?

²³These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment.

²⁴He that says unto the wicked, You are righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him:

²⁵But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them.

²⁶Every man shall kiss his lips that gives a right answer.

²⁷Prepare your work without, and make it fit for yourself in the field; and afterwards build yours house.

²⁸Be not a witness against your neighbour without cause; and deceive not with your lips.

²⁹Say not, I will do so to him as he has done to me: I will render to the man according to his work.

³⁰I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

³¹And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

³²Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

³³Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

³⁴So shall your poverty come as one that travelleth; and your want as an armed man.

Proverbs Chapter 25

¹These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

²It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

³The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.

⁴Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer.

⁵Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.

⁶Put not forth yourself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men:

⁷For better it is that it be said unto you, Come up here; than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince whom yours eyes have seen.

⁸Go not forth hastily to strive, lest you know not what to do in the end thereof, when your neighbour has put you to shame.

⁹Debate your cause with your neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another:

¹⁰Lest he that hears it put you to shame, and yours infamy turn not away.

¹¹A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

¹²As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

¹³As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refreshes the soul of his masters.

¹⁴Whoever boasts himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.

¹⁵By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaks the bone.

¹⁶Have you found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for you, lest you be filled therewith, and vomit it.

¹⁷Withdraw your foot from your neighbour's house; lest he be weary of you, and so hate you.

¹⁸A man that bears false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

¹⁹Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

²⁰As he that takes away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that sings songs to an heavy heart.

²¹If yours enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

²²For you shall heap coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward you.

²³The north wind drives away rain: so does an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

²⁴It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

²⁵As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

²⁶A righteous man falling down before the wicked is as a troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring.

²⁷It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory.

²⁸He that has no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

Proverbs Chapter 26

¹As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

²As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.

³A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the fool's back.

⁴Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like unto him.

⁵Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

⁶He that sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off the feet, and drinks damage.

⁷The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.

⁸As he that binds a stone in a sling, so is he that gives honour to a fool.

⁹As a thorn goes up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouths of fools.

¹⁰The great God that formed all things both rewards the fool, and rewards transgressors.

¹¹As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool returns to his folly.

¹²See you a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

¹³The slothful man says, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

¹⁴As the door turns upon his hinges, so does the slothful upon his bed.

¹⁵The slothful hides his hand in his bosom; it grieves him to bring it again to his mouth.

¹⁶The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

¹⁷He that passes by, and meddles with strife belonging not to him, is like one that takes a dog by the ears.

¹⁸As a mad man who casts firebrands, arrows, and death,

¹⁹So is the man that deceives his neighbour, and says, Am not I in sport?

²⁰Where no wood is, there the fire goes out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceases.

²¹As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.

²²The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

²³Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.

²⁴He that hates dissembles with his lips, and lays up deceit within him;

²⁵When he speaks fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart.

²⁶Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be showed before the whole congregation.

²⁷Whoever digs a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolls a stone, it will return upon him.

²⁸A lying tongue hates those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Proverbs Chapter 27

¹Boast not yourself of to morrow; for you know not what a day may bring forth.

²Let another man praise you, and not yours own mouth; a stranger, and not yours own lips.

³A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both.

⁴Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?

⁵Open rebuke is better than secret love.

⁶Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

⁷The full soul loathes an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

⁸As a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man that wanders from his place.

⁹Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so does the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

¹⁰Thine own friend, and your father's friend, forsake not; neither go into your brother's house in the day of your calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off.

¹¹My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproaches me.

¹²A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

¹³Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

¹⁴He that blesses his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him.

¹⁵A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.

¹⁶Whosoever hides her hides the wind, and the ointment of his right hand, which bewrays itself.

¹⁷Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

¹⁸Whoever keeps the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waits on his master shall be honoured.

¹⁹As in water face answers to face, so the heart of man to man.

²⁰Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

²¹As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so is a man to his praise.

²²Though you should bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.

²³Be you diligent to know the state of your flocks, and look well to your herds.

²⁴For riches are not for ever: and does the crown endure to every generation?

²⁵The hay appears, and the tender grass shows itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered.

²⁶The lambs are for your clothing, and the goats are the price of the field.

²⁷And you shall have goats' milk enough for your food, for the food of your household, and for the maintenance for your maidens.

Proverbs Chapter 28

¹The wicked flee when no man pursues: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

²For the transgression of a land many are the princes thereof: but by a man of understanding and knowledge the state thereof shall be prolonged.

³A poor man that oppresses the poor is like a sweeping rain which leaves no food.

⁴They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them.

⁵Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the Lord understand all things.

⁶Better is the poor that walks in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

⁷Whoever keeps the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shames his father.

⁸He that by usury and unjust gain increases his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

⁹He that turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

¹⁰Whoever causes the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: but the upright shall have good things in possession.

¹¹The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that has understanding searches him out.

- ¹²When righteous men do rejoice, there is great glory: but when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.
- ¹³He that covers his sins shall not prosper: but whoever confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy.
- ¹⁴Happy is the man that fears alway: but he that hardens his heart shall fall into mischief.
- ¹⁵As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.
- ¹⁶The prince that wants understanding is also a great oppressor: but he that hates covetousness shall prolong his days.
- ¹⁷A man that does violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.
- ¹⁸Whoever walks uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.
- ¹⁹He that tills his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that follows after vain persons shall have poverty enough.
- ²⁰A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that makes haste to be rich shall not be innocent.
- ²¹To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.
- ²²He that hastes to be rich has an evil eye, and considers not that poverty shall come upon him.
- ²³He that rebukes a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flatters with the tongue.
- ²⁴Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, It is no transgression; the same is the companion of a destroyer.
- ²⁵He that is of a proud heart stirs up strife: but he that puts his trust in the Lord shall be made fat.
- ²⁶He that trusts in his own heart is a fool: but whoever walks wisely, he shall be delivered.
- ²⁷He that gives unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hides his eyes shall have many a curse.
- ²⁸When the wicked rise, men hide themselves: but when they perish, the righteous increase.
- ⁴The king by judgment establishes the land: but he that receives gifts overthrows it.
- ⁵A man that flatters his neighbour spreads a net for his feet.
- ⁶In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare: but the righteous does sing and rejoice.
- ⁷The righteous considers the cause of the poor: but the wicked regards not to know it.
- ⁸Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath.
- ⁹If a wise man contends with a foolish man, whether he rage or laugh, there is no rest.
- ¹⁰The bloodthirsty hate the upright: but the just seek his soul.
- ¹¹A fool utters all his mind: but a wise man keeps it in till afterwards.
- ¹²If a ruler hearken to lies, all his servants are wicked.
- ¹³The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the Lord lightens both their eyes.
- ¹⁴The king that faithfully judges the poor, his throne shall be established for ever.
- ¹⁵The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself brings his mother to shame.
- ¹⁶When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases: but the righteous shall see their fall.
- ¹⁷Correct your son, and he shall give you rest; yea, he shall give delight unto your soul.
- ¹⁸Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keeps the law, happy is he.
- ¹⁹A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understand he will not answer.
- ²⁰See you a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.
- ²¹He that delicately brings up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length.
- ²²An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression.
- ²³A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.
- ²⁴Whoever is partner with a thief hates his own soul: he hears cursing, and bewrays it not.
- ²⁵The fear of man brings a snare: but whoever puts his trust in the Lord shall be safe.
- ²⁶Many seek the ruler's favour; but every man's judgment comes from the Lord.

Proverbs Chapter 29

- ¹He, that being often reprov'd hardens his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.
- ²When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bears rule, the people mourn.
- ³Whoever loves wisdom rejoices his father: but he that keeps company with harlots spends his substance.

²⁷An unjust man is an abomination to the just: and he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked.

Proverbs Chapter 30

¹The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spoke unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal,

²Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.

³I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.

⁴Who has ascended up into heaven, or descended? who has gathered the wind in his fists? who has bound the waters in a garment? who has established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if you can tell?

⁵Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

⁶Add you not unto his words, lest he reprove you, and you be found a liar.

⁷Two things have I required of you; deny me them not before I die:

⁸Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

⁹Lest I be full, and deny you, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

¹⁰Accuse not a servant unto his master, lest he curse you, and you be found guilty.

¹¹There is a generation that curses their father, and does not bless their mother.

¹²There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

¹³There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up.

¹⁴There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.

¹⁵The horseleach has two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough:

¹⁶The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that says not, It is enough.

¹⁷The eye that mocks at his father, and despises to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

¹⁸There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not:

¹⁹The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid.

²⁰Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eats, and wipes her mouth, and says, I have done no wickedness.

²¹For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear:

²²For a servant when he reign; and a fool when he is filled with meat;

²³For an odious woman when she is married; and an handmaid that is heir to her mistress.

²⁴There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise:

²⁵The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;

²⁶The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks;

²⁷The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;

²⁸The spider takes hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.

²⁹There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going:

³⁰A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turns not away for any;

³¹A greyhound; an he goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up.

³²If you have done foolishly in lifting up yourself, or if you have thought evil, lay yours hand upon your mouth.

³³Surely the churning of milk brings forth butter, and the wringing of the nose brings forth blood: so the forcing of wrath brings forth strife.

Proverbs Chapter 31

¹The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him.

²What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows?

³Give not your strength unto women, nor your ways to that which destroys kings.

⁴It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:

⁵Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

⁶Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.

⁷Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

⁸Open your mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.

⁹Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

¹⁰Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

¹¹The heart of her husband does safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

¹²She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

¹³She seeks wool, and flax, and works willingly with her hands.

¹⁴She is like the merchants' ships; she brings her food from afar.

¹⁵She rises also while it is yet night, and gives meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

¹⁶She considers a field, and buys it: with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷She girds her loins with strength, and strengthens her arms.

¹⁸She perceives that her merchandise is good: her candle goes not out by night.

¹⁹She lays her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

²⁰She stretches out her hand to the poor; yea, she reaches forth her hands to the needy.

²¹She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

²²She makes herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

²³Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land.

²⁴She makes fine linen, and sells it; and delivers girdles unto the merchant.

²⁵Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

²⁶She opens her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

²⁷She looks well to the ways of her household, and eats not the bread of idleness.

²⁸Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.

²⁹Many daughters have done virtuously, but you excellest them all.

³⁰Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that fears the Lord, she shall be praised.

³¹Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

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