

*To know wisdom and corrective discipline;*

*My son, if sinners try to make you open to them..*

### CHAPTER 1

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

2 To know wisdom and corrective discipline;<sup>2</sup> to discern the sayings of understanding;

3 To take the corrective discipline of intelligent success, right, and judgment, and upright happiness;<sup>3</sup>

4 To give to those who are open strategic discretion, to the young man knowledge and a plan.

5 A wise one will attentively hear, and will increase instruction; and he who has understanding shall possess skills of managing the ropes;<sup>5</sup>

6 To discern a proverb and its interpretation; the words of the wise and their riddles.

7 The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of knowledge; fools<sup>7</sup> despise wisdom and corrective discipline.

8 Attentively hear, my son, the corrective discipline of your father, and do not thrust off the law of your mother,

<sup>2</sup>**1:2 corrective discipline**, *muwcar*, chastisement, restraint, the correction that parents are to give their children, and that God gives to anyone who will receive it, especially His children.

<sup>3</sup>**1:3 upright happiness**, *meysnar*, evenness, and directness, straightness, and the happiness resulting from being straight with God, yourself, and others. It is the opposite of being crooked.

<sup>5</sup>**1:5 skills of managing the ropes**, *tachbulah*, This word is always in the plural, and means the skills to manage ropes, whether ropes in the management of animals, or mechanisms, or in managing people and ideas. We may think that the phrase, knowing the ropes, is a modern phrase, but it was a term describing management skills from the very beginning of man on earth.

<sup>7</sup>**1:7 fools**, *evilyl*, perverse, one whose character has twisted values. We have retained the word fool, because it is as close as English can come.

9 Because they *will be* a garland of grace to your head and necklaces about your neck.

10 My son, if sinners *try to* make you open *to them*, do not breathe in agreement.

11 If they say, Walk with us; let us lay wait for blood, let us hide *to take* the innocent without cause,

12 Let us swallow them up alive and complete as the world of the dead, as those who go down into the pit;

13 We shall find all precious substance; we shall fill our houses *with* spoil;

14 Let your lot fall among us; let there be one bag to us all.

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

16 Because their feet run to evil, and flow like liquid to spill blood,

17 Because the net is tossed without purpose in the eyes of any lord of wing,<sup>17</sup>

18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they hide for their own souls *to be taken captive*.

19 Thus *are* the well-trodden paths of everyone who plunders for gain; it takes away the soul of its lord.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> **1:17 lord of wing**, *baal kanaph*, literally lord of wing, meaning any bird, any master of flying with his wings. The idea of verses 17-18 is that though it is useless to toss the net when the bird sees the net, these open to deception do not have enough insight to know that in lying in wait for innocent blood they are laying a trap for their own souls.

<sup>19</sup> **1:19** Greed for unrighteous gain takes away, or destroys, your soul.

**PROVERBS 2** *wisdom...gives her voice; I have called, and you refused; take my sayings*

20 Outside wisdom is screaming; she gives her voice in the streets;

21 She is calling out at the head of commotion; she says her sayings in the entrances of the gates of the city.

22 Until when, you *who are open minded*,<sup>22</sup> will you love your open *mindfulness*, and the scoffers delight in their derision, and morally stupid ones hate knowledge?

23 Turn back at my rebuke; behold, I will gush forth my Spirit to you; I will make known my words to you.

24 Take heed; I have called, and you refused; I have stretched out my hand, and none pricked up his ears;

25 And you have stripped away all my counsel, and none would breathe in agreement with my rebuke!

26 I also will laugh at your bending under oppression; I will mock when your fear comes,

27 When your fear comes as a tempest, and your bending under oppression arrives as a snatching hurricane, when distress and an-

guish come upon you.

28 Then they shall call upon me, and I will not answer; they will seek me in the dawn, and they will not find me;

29 Instead, because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of Jehovah,

30 They would not breathe after my counsel; they despised all my rebuke;

31 And they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be satiated with their own counsels,

32 Because the turning away *from God* of those open *to it* will fatally strike them, and the tranquil security of those morally stupid will cause them to be lost.

33 And whoever attentively hears me will reside safely, and will be at peace from fear of evil.

**CHAPTER 2**

1 My son, if you will take my sayings, and hide my commandments with you,

2 So that you prick up your ears to wisdom, and stretch out your heart to understanding,

3 Because, if you call out after understanding, and you give your voice for understanding,

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

5 Then you shall discern the fear of Jehovah, and find the knowledge of God.

6 Because Jehovah gives wisdom; out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

<sup>22</sup> 1:22 *open mindedness, pathah; pathah* means to be open to whatever is trying to enter you. You should be open to God, but not open to the deceptions of man and Satan. Broad mindedness and open mindedness has been a tool of Satan since the Snake told Eve that she should be open minded about the tree of experiential knowledge of good and evil. Open mindedness is enforced by governments all over the world today, and has been in many ages of the past. Open mindedness will get you destroyed. You have to fasten your mind upon Jehovah God and His Son, Jesus, the Messiah, and be closed to every thought and action that comes against Him and His Word.

*God's word will snatch you from the adulterous woman; God's law gives long life* **PROVERBS 3**

7 He hides counsel for the upright, a shield to them who walk in completeness.

8 He guards the well-trod paths of judgment, and hedges about the way of his merciful ones.

9 At that time you will discern righteousness, and judgment, and upright happiness, every good path,

10 Because wisdom enters into your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul;

11 Wise planning will hedge you about; understanding will guard you,

12 To snatch you from the way of the evil, from the man who speaks perverseness,

13 Who leaves the well-trod paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness,

14 Who rejoices to do evil, and spins around with emotion in the perverseness of the wicked,

15 Whose well-trod ways *are* crooked, and they turn away in their paths;

16 To snatch<sup>16</sup> you from the adulterous woman, from the stranger who is smooth with her words,

17 Who forsakes the family guide of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her God,

18 Because her house sinks into death, and her paths to the shadows of the dead.

<sup>16</sup> **2:16** Verse 16 and following is the second statement stemming from verse 11. **Wise planning will hedge you about; intelligent insight will guard you; 12 [A] to snatch you from the way of evil.... 16. [B] to snatch you from the adulterous woman.**

19 All who go in to her do not return again, and they do not reach the well-trod paths of life.

20 That you may walk in the way of good, and hedge about the well-trod paths of the righteous,

21 Because the upright will reside in the earth, and the complete will remain in it.

22 And the wicked will be cut off from the earth, and the deceitful will be torn out of it.

### CHAPTER 3

1 My son, do not forget my law, and let your heart guard my commandments,

2 Because they shall add to you length of days and years of life and peace.

3 Do not let mercy and truth forsake you; bind them about your neck; write them upon the tablet of your heart;

4 And you will find grace and good intelligent success in the eyes of God and man.

5 Trust in Jehovah with all your heart, and do not lean toward your own understanding.

6 In all your ways know by seeing him, and he shall make your well-trod paths upright.

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear Jehovah, and depart from evil.

8 It shall be health to your umbilical cord, and moisture to your bones.

9 Give heavy honor to Jehovah with your substance, and with the firstfruits of all your income,

**PROVERBS 3** *do not despise the corrective discipline of Jehovah; do not withhold payment of debt*

10 And your storehouses shall be filled with plenty, and your presses shall break out with fresh pressed grape juice.

11 My son, do not despise the corrective discipline of Jehovah, and do not abhor his rebuke,

12 Because whom Jehovah loves he makes right, even as a father the son *in whom* he delights.

13 Righteously happy *is* the man who finds wisdom and the man who gets understanding,

14 Because its profit is better than the profit of silver, and its income than mined gold.

15 She *is more* precious than red corals, and all your pleasures cannot to be made equal to her.

16 Length of days *is* in her right hand; in her left hand wealth and heavy glory.

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

18 She *is the* tree of life<sup>18</sup> to them who seize her, and he who takes hold of her *is* righteously happy.

19 Jehovah has founded the earth by wisdom; he has set up the heavens by understanding.

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

21 My son, do not let them depart from your eyes; guard counsel and planning,

22 And they shall be life to your soul and grace to your neck.

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

24 When you lie down, you shall not fear, and you shall lie down, and your sleep shall be secure.

25 Do not fear sudden fear and the tempest of the wicked, because it will come,

26 Because Jehovah shall be your loins of strength, and shall hedge about your foot from being taken.

27 Do not withhold good from its lord when your hand is mighty to do *it*.

28 Do not say to your neighbor, Walk, and come again, and tomorrow I will give when it exists to you *now*.

29 Do not devise evil against your neighbor and him dwelling safely by you.

30 Do not contend with a man without cause, if he has done to you no evil.

31 Do not be jealous of a violent man, and do not choose any of his ways,

32 Because he who turns away *is* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and his assembled counsel *is* with the upright.

33 The curse of Jehovah is in the house of the wicked, and he kneels down with goodness to the place of rest of the righteous.

34 If he scorns the scoffers, then he gives grace to the meek.

35 The wise shall inherit heavy glory, and those morally stupid exalt shame.

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<sup>18</sup>**3:18 tree of life**, *ets chayiym*, the exact Hebrew words of Gen 2:9, the tree of life from which we were cut off by God's flaming sword because of our sin, is now restored to us through Jehovah God's wisdom as revealed in Jesus Christ, the Messiah, John 14:6.

CHAPTER 4

1 You children, attentively hear the corrective discipline of a father, and prick up your ears to know understanding,

2 Because I give you good instruction; do not forsake my law,

3 Because I was my father's son, a tender and only *child* before the face of my mother.

4 And he caused *it* to flow to me, and said to me, Let your heart take hold of my words; hedge about my commandments, and live.

5 Possess<sup>5</sup> wisdom; possess understanding; do not forget, and do not stretch away from the words of my mouth.

6 Do not forsake her, and she will hedge you about; love her, and she will guard you.

7 The beginning *is* wisdom; possess wisdom; and with all your possessing, possess understanding.

8 Mound her up as an expressway, and she shall lift you up; she shall make you heavy in glory because you embrace her.

9 She shall give to your head a garland of grace; she shall shield you with a crown of splendor.

10 Oh my son, attentively hear, and take my sayings, and increase the years of your life.

11 I have caused the way of wisdom to flow to you; I have caused you to tread in paths of right.

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<sup>5</sup> 4:5 **Possess**, *qanah*, to set up something for your possession. God commands us to set up His wisdom in such a way as to possess it for our own. He also commands us to set up discernment or understanding for our possession.

12 When you walk, your steps shall not be hard pressed, and when you run, you shall not stumble weak legged.

13 Seize corrective discipline; do not slack off; guard her; because she is your life.

14 Do not go into the well-trod path of the wicked, and do not try to be righteously happy in the way of evil.

15 Strip it away; do not cross by it; do not deviate toward it, and cross over from *it*,

16 Because they do not sleep unless they have done tumultuous evil, and their sleep is plucked away unless they cause some to stumble weak legged,

17 Because they eat the food of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

18 And the well-trod path of the righteous is as the brilliant light, that walks shining until the day set up.

19 And the way of the wicked *is* darkness; they do not know at what they stumble weak legged.

20 My son, prick up your ears to my words; spread out your ears to my sayings.

21 Do not let them depart from your eyes; hedge them about in the midst of your heart,

22 Because they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.

23 With all guarding, guard your heart, because out of it comes life.

24 Turn a perverse mouth away from yourself, and widely distance perverse lips from you.

**PROVERBS 5** *The steps of an adulterous woman take hold on death; find pleasure in your wife*

25 Let your eyes look intently straight ahead, and let your eyelids look straight in front of you.

26 Level the path for your feet, and let all your ways be set up.

27 Do not turn away to the right hand nor to the left; turn away your foot from evil.

**CHAPTER 5**

1 My son, prick up your ears to my wisdom, and spread out your ears to my understanding,

2 That you may hedge about wise planning, and your lips may guard knowledge,

3 Because, dripping honey oozes from the lips of an adulterous woman, and her taste *is* smoother than oil;

4 And what follows *is* a bitter curse, sharp as a sword with mouths.

5 Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on the world of the dead,

6 Lest you try to level out the well-trod path of life, her ways waver; you cannot know them.<sup>6</sup>

7 And now, Oh you children, attentively hear, and do not depart from the sayings of my mouth.

8 Widely distancing yourself, widely distance yourself from her way, and do not approach the entrance of her house,

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<sup>6</sup> 5:6 The idea is: **Lest you think you can level out the well-trod path of life** by including her in your life, be advised that **her ways waver**, constantly changing, so that **you cannot know them**. You never know what to expect. You cannot level or square the true path of life with her, because she is evil and you cannot make the righteous path equal with her wicked path. Her path leads to hell. You cannot make her path be the path of life. It is impossible.

9 Lest you give your glorious authority to others, and your years to the cruel,

10 Lest strangers be satiated with your power, and your labors be in the house of a stranger;

11 And you groan at the end, when your flesh and your body are finished,

12 And say, How I have hated corrective discipline, and my heart despised rebuke,

13 And have not attentively heard the voice of those who caused *it* to flow to me; *I* have not spread out my ears to them who taught<sup>13</sup> me!

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

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

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

17 Let them be only your own, and not a stranger's with you.

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

19 Let her be as the loving doe and graceful ibex;<sup>19</sup> let her breasts satisfy your appetite at all times; stray with her love always.

20 And my son, why will you stray with an adulterous woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

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<sup>13</sup> 5:13 **taught**, *lamad*, goaded me with a rod of discipline.

<sup>19</sup> 5:19 **ibex**, a very graceful animal similar to the deer but smaller.

Do not be ensnared with the sayings of your mouth; See the example of the ant **PROVERBS 6**

21 Because the ways of man are in front of the eyes of Jehovah, and he equals out all his paths.<sup>21</sup>

22 His own crookedness shall capture the wicked himself, and he shall be held with the ropes of his sins.

23 He shall die without corrective discipline, and he shall stray in the abundance of his foolishness.

### CHAPTER 6

1 My son, if you give security for your friend, your palms are slapped into bondage with a stranger;

2 You are ensnared with the sayings of your mouth; you are captured with the sayings of your mouth.

3 Do this now, my son, and snatch yourself out; when you have come into the palm of your friend, walk, prostrate yourself, and fiercely plead with your friend.

4 Do not give sleep to your eyes, nor drowsiness to your eyelids.

5 Snatch yourself out from the hand as a gazelle, and as a little bird from the hand of the hunter.

6 Walk to the ant, you sluggard; see her ways, and be wise,

7 To whom *is* no magistrate, overseer, or ruler,

<sup>21</sup> 5:21 equals out, *palac*, rolls flat, makes level, weighs out. This principle is constantly placed before us in the Word of God. In the end everything must be equaled out. Every man will reap what he sows, Gal 6:7. Every word spoken, every deed done, is not complete, at peace, until it has reaped its results. The sowing is only one half. The other half is the reaping. There will be nothing at the end without its other half.

8 Who sets up her food in the harvest, and harvests her food in the harvest time.

9 How long, Oh sluggard, will you lie down? When will you rise out of your sleep?

10 A little sleep, a little drowsiness, a little folding of the hands to lie down,

11 And your poverty shall come walking, and your lack as a man with a shield.

12 A worthless man, a vain man, walks with a perverse mouth.

13 He winks with his eyes, he talks with his feet, he causes *things* to flow with his fingers;

14 Changeableness *is* in his heart; he devises evil all the time; he sends out contentions.

15 Therefore his bending under oppression shall come suddenly; it will burst upon him, and there is no healing.

16 Jehovah hates these six, and seven are an abomination to his soul:

17 Raised eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that spill innocent blood,

18 A heart that devises vain devices, feet that flow like liquid running to evil,

19 A false witness who breathes lies, and he who sends out contentions among brothers.

20 My son, guard your father's commandment,<sup>20</sup> and do not thrust off the law of your mother;

<sup>20</sup> 6:20 A holy principle is declared in verses 20-24, that the commandment of your father and law of your mother should be the same as the commandment of God and the law of Jehovah. Every father and mother from

**PROVERBS 7** *God's Word will counsel you; a whorish woman; write God's laws upon your heart*

21 Bind them upon your heart continually; lace them firmly about your neck.

22 When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will hedge you about; and when you awake, they will cause you to ponder;

23 Because the commandment *is* a lamp, and the law *is* light; and the way of life *is* rebuke in corrective discipline,

24 To hedge you about from an evil woman, from the smooth tongue of an adulterous woman.

25 Do not delight in her beauty in your heart, and do not let her take you with her fluttering eyelashes,

26 Because the end result of a whorish woman *is* a piece of food, and the woman hunts for the soul of the man.

27 Can a man pick up fire into his bosom, and his clothes not be set on fire?

28 Since when can man walk upon hot coals, and his feet not be blistered?

29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; whoever touches her shall not be innocent.

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Adam and Eve forward will be held accountable whether or not they passed on to their children the commandment and the law of Jehovah God. Every person in the world today, regardless of his present religion or lack thereof at one time somewhere in his past had a parent who failed to pass on to him or her the commandment and law of Jehovah God. Each parent after having been involved in a religion other than faith and obedience to Jehovah God heard the voice of God in his conscience to return to Jehovah God of his ancient parents. All are without excuse, Rom 1:17-23.

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30 Do not despise a thief, if he steals to fill his soul when he is hungry,

31 And if he is found, he shall make it complete sevenfold; he shall give all the wealth of his house.

32 Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks a heart; he who does it destroys his own soul.

33 He shall find a plague and disgrace, and his disgrace shall not be rubbed out,

34 Because jealousy *is* the rage of a mighty man, and he will not spare in pity in the day of revenge.

35 He will not lift his face to any covering, and he will not breathe contentedly though you multiply gifts.

**CHAPTER 7**

1 My son, hedge about my sayings, and hide my commandments with you.

2 Hedge about my commandments, and live, and my law as the little man of your eye.

3 Bind them upon your fingers; write them upon the tablet of your heart.

4 Say to wisdom, You *are* my sister, and call understanding your kinswoman,

5 That they may hedge you about from the adulterous woman, from the smooth sayings of the stranger,

6 Because I peered through my lattice at the window of my house,

7 And I saw among those open, I discerned among the youths a young man without heart,



*The house of a harlot is the way to the world of the dead; Wisdom calls out to you* **PROVERBS 8**

8 Crossing through the street near her corner, and he marched on the way to her house,

9 In the evening breeze, in the dusk of the day, in the little man of the eye at night and dark;

10 And behold, a woman met him dressed as a harlot, and *her* heart guarded.

11 She is loud and stubborn; her feet do not reside in her house;

12 Now *she is* outside, now in the streets, and lurks at every corner.

13 And she seized him, and kissed him, and with a powerful face said to him,

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

15 Therefore I came out to meet you, diligently seeking your face, and I have found you.

16 I have spread my bed with a bedspread, with carvings, with fine twisted yarn of Egypt.

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

18 Walk, let us satisfy our thirst for love until the dawn; let us wave joyously with loves,

19 Because the man is not at the house; he has walked on a distant journey;

20 He has taken in his hand a bag of silver; he will come home at the fulfilled day.

21 She stretched him away with her abundant instruction; she pushed him in with what she allotted with her lips.

22 He walks after her instantly, as an ox goes to the slaughter, and as a fool to the corrective discipline

of the stocks,

23 Until an arrow slices his liver, as a little bird flows like liquid to the springnet, and does not know that it *is* for his soul.

24 And now, Oh you children, attentively hear me, and prick up your ears to the sayings of my mouth.

25 Do not let your heart deviate to her ways; do not stray into her paths,

26 Because she has caused many to fall polluted,<sup>26</sup> and many who were strong have been fatally struck by her.

27 Her house *is* the way to world of the dead,<sup>27</sup> going down to the apartments of death.

## CHAPTER 8

1 Does wisdom not call out, and understanding give her voice?

2 In the head of high places upon the way, in the houses along the paths, she stations herself.

3 She screams at hand, in the gates, at the mouth of the city, at the entrance by the doors:

4 I call to you, Oh men, and my voice *is* to the sons of Adam.

5 Discern wisdom, Oh you open, and you morally stupid ones, understand in heart.

6 Attentively hear, because I will speak things of a commander, and the opening of my lips shall be right things,

7 Because my taste shall murmur truth in pleasure, and wickedness *is* morally disgusting to my

<sup>26</sup> 7:26 polluted, *chahal*, polluted in your own blood by being killed.

<sup>27</sup> 7:27 the world of the dead, *sheol*. Note Gen 37:35.

**PROVERBS 8** *Wisdom is better than...all that may be desired; Wisdom is the Son of God*

lips.

8 All the sayings of my mouth *are* righteousness; there is nothing in them twisted and distorted.

9 All are straightforward to him who understands, and right to them who find knowledge.

10 Take my corrective discipline and not silver, and knowledge rather than mined gold,

11 Because wisdom *is* better than red corals, and all that may be desired are not to be made equal to it.

12 I, wisdom, reside with discretion, and find knowledge of plans.

13 The fear of Jehovah *is* to hate evil, pride, and *assumed* majesty, and an evil way; and I hate a perverse mouth.

14 Counsel and understanding *are* mine; I am understanding; I have might.

15 By me kings reign, and princes decree right.

16 By me chief rulers rule, and *the* generous, all the judges of the earth.

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

18 Wealth and heavy glory *are* with me, enduring wealth and righteousness.

19 My fruit *is* better than mined gold, even than mined gold, and my income than tried silver.

20 I walk in the well-trod way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment,

21 That I may cause those who love me to inherit *real* existence,<sup>21</sup> and I will fill their treasures.

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22 Jehovah possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of time.

23 I was anointed from everlasting, from the head, before the earth.

24 When there were no depths I twisted *in joy*, when there were no fountains heavy with water.

25 Before the hills sank, the face of the little hills, I twisted *in joy*;

26 While he had not made the earth, and the outdoors, and the head of the dust of the inhabited earth,

27 When he set up the heavens, I *was* there; when he inscribed a circle upon the face of the depth,

28 When he made the clouds above powerfully alert, when he made the eyes of the deep strong,

29 When he put to the sea his enactment, that the waters should not cross over contrary to his mouth, when he inscribed the foundations of the earth,

30 Then I was at his side as an architect; and I was day to day a delight, laughing all the time before his face,

31 Laughing in his inhabited earth, and my delights *were* with the sons of Adam.

32 And now, Oh you children, attentively hear me, and *be* righteously happy, hedging about my ways.

<sup>21</sup> **8:21 real existence**, *yesh*, to be, to exist. The meaning is that Wisdom, the Son of God, causes those who love Him to inherit reality, the good and eternal reality, the condition of God who is I AM, not the false, wicked, nothingness.

*Wisdom calls you to her feast, and will multiply your days; a foolish woman...* **PROVERBS 10**

33 Attentively hear corrective discipline, and be wise, and do not strip it away.

34 Righteously happy *is* the man who attentively hears me, being alert day to day at my gates, hedging about the posts of my doors,

35 Because whoever finds me finds life, and shall obtain favor of Jehovah.

36 And he who sins against me is violent toward his own soul; all who hate me love death.

### CHAPTER 9

1 Wisdom has built her house; she has carved out her seven columns;

2 She has slaughtered her meat; she has mixed her wine; also she has arranged her table.

3 She has sent out her young ladies; she calls out upon the highest places of the city,

4 Whoever is open, let him turn in here; he who lacks heart, she says to him,

5 Walk, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed.

6 Forsake being open, and live; and be righteously happy in the way of understanding.

7 He who chastises a scoffer takes to himself shame, and he who makes the wicked right is stained.

8 Do not set a scoffer right, lest he hate you; set the wise right, and he will love you.

9 Give to the wise, and he will be more wise; cause the righteous to know by seeing, and he will increase in receiving instruction.

10 The fear of Jehovah *is* the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding,

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

12 If you are wise, you shall be wise for yourself, and if you scorn, you shall bear it separately.

13 A foolish woman *is* loud; she is open, and never knows why.

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

15 To call out to those crossing by in the way who go upright on their well-trod paths;

16 Whoever is open, let him turn in here; and he who lacks heart, she says to him,

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

18 And he does not know by seeing that the ghosts of the dead *are* there, calling out from the depths of the world of the dead.

### CHAPTER 10

1 The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son causes a father to rejoice, and a morally stupid son is the grief of his mother.

2 Nothing can cause treasures of wickedness to be valuable, and righteousness snatches *you* from death.

3 Jehovah will not allow the soul of the righteous to hunger, and he pushes away the tempestuous ruin of the wicked.

4 The destitute deals with a treacherous palm, and the hand that digs it out is righteously happy.

## PROVERBS 10

*Wisdom will multiply your days; a foolish woman...a wise son...*

5 He who harvests in harvest *is* an intelligently successful son; he who is stupefied in harvest *is* a son causing *you* to pale in shame.

6 Blessings *are* upon the head of the righteous, and the mouth of the wicked covers violence.

7 The memory of the righteous is blessed, and the name of the wicked shall rot.

8 The wise in heart will take commandments, and the lip of the fool shall be overthrown.

9 He who walks in completeness walks safely, and he who perverts his ways shall be known.

10 He who winks with the eye gives a wound, and the lip of a fool will be overthrown.

11 The mouth of a righteous man *is* a well of life, and the mouth of the wicked covers violence.

12 Hate wakes up contentions, and love will cover all transgressions.

13 Wisdom is found in the lips of him who discerns, and a rod is for the back of him who is lacking heart.

14 The wise hide knowledge *in storage*, and the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

15 *The* wealth of a rich man *is* his strong city; the destruction of those dangling in need *is* their poverty.

16 The work of the righteous *is* life; the income of the wicked *is* sin.

17 The well-trod way of life hedges about corrective discipline, and he who forsakes rebuke strays.

18 He who covers hate with lying lips, and he who causes a slander to go out, *is* morally stupid.

19 There is no lack of transgression in the abundance of words, and he who causes his lips to cease is intelligently successful.

20 The tongue of the righteous *is* as choice silver; the heart of the wicked *is* little.

21 The lips of the righteous shepherd many, and fools die for lack of heart.

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

23 *It is* laughter to the morally stupid to do an *evil* scheme, and wisdom *is* to a man of understanding.

24 The fear of the wicked shall come upon him, and the craving of the righteous shall be given.

25 As the snatching hurricane crosses over, so the wicked is no more, and the righteous *is* an everlasting foundation.

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

27 The fear of Jehovah adds days, and the years of the wicked shall be cut off.

28 The expectation of the righteous shall rejoice, and the cord *of hope* of the wicked shall be lost.

29 The way of Jehovah *is* the fort of the complete, and destruction shall be to the doers of vanity.

30 The righteous shall forever fail to waver, and the wicked shall not reside in the earth.

31 The mouth of the righteous germinates wisdom, and the tongue of the perverse shall be cut out.

32 The lips of the righteous know what is delightful, and the mouth of the wicked *knows* perverseness.

### CHAPTER 11

1 A false balance *is* an abomination to Jehovah, and a complete stone<sup>1</sup> *is* his delight.

2 Arrogance comes, then comes disgrace, and wisdom *is* with the lowly.

3 The innocence of the upright shall guide them, and the distortion of deceivers shall ravage them.

4 Wealth is not valuable in the day of wrath, and righteousness snatches from death.

5 The righteousness of the complete shall make his way straight, and the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

6 The righteousness of the upright shall snatch them out, and deceivers shall be captured in their own tempestuous ruin.

7 When a wicked man dies, *his cord of hope* will be lost, and the expectation of the vain is lost.

8 The righteous is pulled out of oppression, and the wicked comes in his place.

9 One dirty by sin ruins his neighbor with his mouth, and the righteous shall be pulled out through knowledge.

<sup>1</sup> 11:1 stone, *eben*, literally, a stone, referring to the stone that is used to counter balance the scales to weigh merchandise. Complete is *shalem*, meaning complete in peace, a full and equal weight that does not cheat the buyer or the seller.

10 When it is well with the righteous the city jumps for joy, and when the wicked are destroyed there is shouting.

11 By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, and by the mouth of the wicked it is pulled down.

12 He who lacks heart despises his neighbor, and a man of understanding devises in silence.

13 A walking scandal-monger reveals assembled counsels, and he who is faithful in spirit conceals a word.

14 Where there is no management of the ropes the people fall, and *there is* freedom from falling in the abundance of advisers.

15 Evil breaking to pieces *comes* because he has given security for a stranger, and he who hates making bond *for others* will be confident.

16 A gracious woman sustains heavy glory, and the ruthless sustain wealth.

17 The merciful man does good to his own soul, and he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.

18 The wicked does a deceitful work, and there *is* a faithful payment to him who sows righteousness.

19 As righteousness *is* life, so he who runs after evil *is* his own death.

20 They who are of a false heart *are* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and his delights *are* in those who are complete in their way.

**PROVERBS 12** *Contrast of the righteous with the wicked; principles on wealth*

21 The wicked shall not be clean *though* hand is joined to hand, and the seed of the righteous shall escape.

22 A gold nose-ring in a swine's snout *is like* a beautiful woman who has turned away from good taste.

23 The craving of the righteous is only good; the cord *of hope* of the wicked *is* wrath.

24 There is that scatters and still increases, and there is that which withholds the right only to be impoverished.

25 The soul of the one who kneels down with goodness shall be anointed, and he who satisfies the thirst *of others*, it also will flow to him.

26 He who withholds grain, the communities shall puncture him, and blessing *shall be* upon the head of him who sells *it*.

27 He who is up early in the dawn for good searches out delight, and he who treads seeking evil, it shall come to him.

28 He who trusts in his wealth, he shall fall, and the righteous shall flourish as foliage.

29 He who troubles his own house shall inherit the wind, and the fool *shall be* a servant to the wise in heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous *is* a tree of life, and he who wins<sup>30</sup> souls *is* wise.

31 Behold, the righteous shall be completed in the earth, because the wicked and the sinner *shall* also *be completed*.

**CHAPTER 12**

1 Whoever loves corrective discipline loves knowledge, and he who hates rebuke is brutish.

2 He who is good obtains *the* delight of Jehovah, and he will condemn a man of wicked plans.

3 A man shall not be set up by wickedness, and the root of the righteous shall not waver.

4 A woman of resources *is* a crown to her lord, and she who causes *him* to pale in shame *is* as rottenness in his bones.

5 The devices of the righteous are right, and the management of the ropes of the wicked is deceit.

6 The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood, and the mouth of the upright shall snatch them out.

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

8 According to *the* mouth of intelligent success a man shall be praised, and he who is of a crooked heart shall be held in disrespect.

9 It is better to be made light of, and *have* a servant, than he who gives heavy glory to himself, and lacks food.

10 He who is righteous knows the soul of his animal, and the compassions of the wicked *are* violent.

<sup>30</sup> 11:30 wins, *laqach*, to take souls, to capture the interest of their souls, so as to lead them to the **tree of life**, Jesus in you, mentioned in the first part of the verse.

11 He who works his soil shall be filled to satisfaction with food, and he who runs after the vain lacks heart.

12 The wicked delights in the net of the evil, and the root of the righteous gives.

13 In the transgression of lips *is* the snare of evil, and the righteous shall come out of oppression.

14 A man shall be filled to satisfaction with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the treatment of a man's hands shall turn back to him.

15 The way of a fool is upright in his own eyes, and he who attentively hears advice is wise.

16 A fool's provocation is known today, and the cunning covers disgrace.

17 He who breathes out moral fidelity causes righteousness to stand out boldly, and a false witness, deceit.

18 There is he who babbles like the stabbing wound of a sword, and the tongue of the wise heals.

19 The lip of truth shall be set up forever, and a lying tongue *endures* for a wink of the eye.

20 Deceit *is* in the heart of them who plot evil, and joy *is* to the counselors of peace.

21 There shall not any vanity happen to the righteous, and the wicked shall be filled with evil.

22 Lying lips are morally disgusting to Jehovah, and they who deal with moral fidelity *are* his delight.

23 A cunning man conceals knowledge, and the heart of fools calls out foolishness.

24 The hand of him who digs it out shall rule, and the treacherous shall be under forced labor.

25 Anxiety in the heart of man prostrates it, and a good word causes it to rejoice.

26 The righteous is on the go to gain more than his neighbor, and the way of the wicked causes them to stray.

27 The treacherous does not roast what he took in *the* hunt, and the wealth of a man is valuable to him who dug it out.

28 Life is in the well-trod road of righteousness, and *there is* no death in its well-trod way.

### CHAPTER 13

1 A wise son *attentively hears* the corrective discipline of his father, and he who makes mouths at *it* will not attentively hear rebuke.

2 A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth, and the soul of the deceiver *shall eat* violence.

3 He who guards his mouth hedges about his soul; he who opens wide his lips, destruction *shall be* to him.

4 The soul of the sluggard wishes, and there is nothing, and the soul of him who digs it out shall be anointed.

5 The righteous hates a sham word, and the wicked morally stinks and will be ashamed.

6 Righteousness guards the complete in the way, and wickedness wrenches *away* the sinner.

7 There is that makes himself rich, and all *is* nothing; there is that makes himself needy, and *there*

## PROVERBS 14

*The contrast between the wicked and the righteous; a wise woman*

*are abundant riches.*

8 The covering of a man's soul *is* his wealth, and the destitute does not attentively hear rebuke.

9 The light of the righteous rejoices, and the lamp of the wicked shall be extinguished.

10 Arrogance gives only contention, and with the well advised *is* wisdom.

11 Wealth by vanity shall be pared away, and he who gathers by *his* hand shall increase.

12 Expectation drawn out makes the heart worn *down*, and *when* the craving comes *it is* a tree of life.

13 Whoever despises the word shall be bound tightly, and he who fears the commandment shall be complete.

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

15 Good intelligent success gives grace, and the way of deceivers is permanent.

16 Everyone who is cunning deals with knowledge, and he who is morally stupid spreads out stupidity.

17 A wicked messenger falls into evil, and he who presses on faithfully *is* healing.

18 Poverty and shame *shall be* to him who strips away corrective discipline, and he who hedges about rebuke *will be* heavily glorified.

19 Craving is the business of the soul,<sup>19</sup> and it is morally disgusting to the morally stupid to depart from evil.

20 He who walks with the wise shall be wise, and he who shepherds the morally stupid shall shout *in alarm*.

21 Evil runs after sinners, and the righteous shall be completed *with* good.

22 The good leaves an inheritance to *his* children's children, and the resources of the sinner are hidden *in store* for the righteous.

23 Abundant food *is in* the plowing of the destitute, and he is scraped away to whom *is* no judgment.

24 He who holds back his rod<sup>24</sup> hates his son, and he who loves him, gives him corrective discipline early. Note Pro 19:18

25 The righteous eats to the satisfaction of his soul, and the belly of the wicked shall lack.

## CHAPTER 14

1 A wise woman builds her house, and the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

2 He who walks in the right fears Jehovah, and he who departs in his ways despises him.

3 In the mouth of the foolish is a branch of arrogance, and the lips of the wise shall hedge them about.

<sup>19</sup> **13:19 Craving** to change, to improve, to accomplish what one has not yet accomplished, **is the business**, *arab*, to trade, to barter, to traffic in business, and thereby gain a profit to improve your wealth, to improve yourself. This is the main business of the soul - goal striving, reaching for greater accomplishments, to change to become better. On the other hand, it is morally disgusting to the morally stupid to depart from evil, that is, he or she does not wish to change, and has no ambitions for the future.

<sup>24</sup> **13:24 rod**, *shebet*, branch or limb of a tree, referring to what is used to spank a child when disobedient.



4 Where there are no oxen the stall *is* clean, and abundant income is by the power of the bullock.

5 A trustworthy witness will not lie, and a false witness will breathe out lies.

6 A scoffer searches out wisdom, and it does not exist *to him*; and knowledge *is* light to him who understands.

7 Walk from the presence of a foolish man when you know by seeing *there are* no lips of knowledge in him.

8 The wisdom of the cunning is to perceive his way, and the foolishness of fools *is* deceit.

9 Fools scoff at sin, and *there is* delight among the righteous.

10 The heart knows the bitterness of his own soul, and his joy does not give security for a stranger.

11 The house of the wicked shall be desolate, and the tent of the upright shall flourish.

12 There is a way right before the face of a man, and its end *are* the ways of death.

13 Even in laughter the heart is sore, and the end of rejoicing is grief.

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

15 Those who are open believe every word, and the cunning understands his steps.

16 The wise fears, and departs from evil, and the morally stupid crosses on, and is confident.

17 He whose nostrils blaze quickly does foolishly, and a man of evil plans is hated.

18 Those who are open inherit foolishness, and the cunning are enclosed with knowledge.

19 The evil sink before the face of the good, and the wicked *sink* at the gates of the righteous.

20 The destitute is hated even by his own neighbor, and the rich are loved by many.

21 He who despises his neighbor sins, and he who stoops down in grace to the meek, he is righteously happy.

22 Do they not err who devise evil? And mercy and truth *shall be* to them who devise good.

23 In all laborious toil there is profit, and the words of the lips surely impoverishes.

24 The crown of the wise *is* their wealth; the foolishness of the morally stupid *is* foolishness.

25 A true witness snatches souls out of *destruction*, and the deceitful breathes out lies.

26 In the fear of Jehovah *is* a refuge, and shall be a shelter of refuge to his children.

27 The fear of Jehovah *is* a well of life to depart from the snares of death.

28 In the abundance of people *is* the king's beauty, and the end of the community *is* the ruin of the dignitary.

29 He who waits long before blazing nostrils *is* of great understanding, and he who is short in spirit exalts foolishness.

**PROVERBS 15** *The life of the flesh is a healthy heart; A tender answer turns away anger*

30 The life of the flesh *is* a healthy heart, and jealousy *is* rotteness of the bones.

31 He who oppresses him who dangles in need reproaches his Maker; and he gives heavy glory to him who stoops down in grace to the poor.

32 The wicked is pushed down in his wickedness, and there is confidence to the righteous in his death.

33 Wisdom rests in the heart of him to whom *is* understanding, and what is in the center of those morally stupid is known by seeing.

34 Righteousness exalts a people and *is* mercy to the communities of sinners. See Note, Lev 20:17

35 *The* delight of a king *is* an intelligently successful servant, and his wrath is against him who causes *him* to pale in shame.

**CHAPTER 15**

1 A tender answer turns away anger, and painful words cause the nostrils to rise *inflamed*.

2 The tongue of the wise makes sound knowledge, and the mouth of those morally stupid gushes out foolishness.

3 In every place the eyes of Jehovah lean out peering at the evil and the good.

4 A healing tongue *is* a tree of life, and its flattery breaks the spirit.

5 A fool rejects his father's corrective discipline with contempt, and he who hedges about rebuke *is* cunning.

6 In the house of the righteous *is* abundant wealth, and in the income of the wicked is trouble.

7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge, and the heart of the foolish *is* not the same.

8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.

9 The way of the wicked *is* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and he loves him who runs after righteousness.

10 Corrective discipline *is* evil to him who forsakes the way; he who hates rebuke shall die.

11 The world of the dead and destruction *are* before Jehovah; how much more then the hearts of the children of Adam?

12 A scoffer does not love one who sets him right; he will not walk to the wise.

13 A joyful heart makes the face well, and by a wound of heart the spirit is struck.

14 The heart of him who understands seeks knowledge, and the mouth of those morally stupid grazes on foolishness.

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

16 Better *is* little with the fear of Jehovah than great treasure and uproarious confusion with it.

17 Better *is* a dinner of greens and love *is* there, than a stall fed bullock and hatred there.

18 A man of anger scrapes up strife, and he who waits long before his nostrils burn causes the controversy to rest.

*Contrast of the morally stupid with the wise; Roll on to Jehovah your works...* **PROVERBS 16**

19 The way of the lazy *is* as a hedge of thorns, and the well-trod road of the upright is mounded up as an expressway.

20 A wise son rejoices a father, and a morally stupid man despises his mother.

21 Foolishness *is* joy to him who is without wisdom, and a man of understanding walks uprightly.

22 Devisings are broken up *when there is* no assembled counsel, and in the abundance of advisors they are raised up.

23 *There is* joy to a man by the answer of his mouth, and a timely word, how good *it is!*

24 The well-trod road of life is above to the intelligently successful, that he may depart from the world of the dead beneath.

25 Jehovah will tear down the house of the lofty, and he will station the boundary of the widow.

26 The devices of the wicked *are* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and the sayings of the pure *are* pleasant.

27 He troubles his own house who plunders for plunder, and he who hates bribes shall live.

28 The heart of the righteous ponders *his* answer, and the mouth of the wicked gushes out evil.

29 Jehovah *is* widely distanced from the wicked, and he attentively hears the prayer of the righteous.

30 The light of the eyes rejoices the heart; a good report anoints the bones.

31 The ear that attentively hears the rebuke of life shall reside among the wise.

32 He who strips away corrective discipline despises his own soul, and he who attentively hears rebuke builds up *his* heart.

33 The fear of Jehovah *is* the corrective discipline of wisdom, and before the face of heavy glory *is* humility.

## CHAPTER 16

1 From man *is* the arrangement of the heart, and from Jehovah *is* the answer of the tongue.

2 All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes, and Jehovah weighs the spirits.

3 Roll on to Jehovah your works, and he will cause what you devise to be set up.

4 Jehovah has made all for an answer, and even the evil for the evil day.

5 Everyone who is lofty in heart *is* morally disgusting to Jehovah; *though he joins* hand to hand he shall not be clean.<sup>5</sup>

6 Crookedness is covered by mercy and truth, and they depart from evil by the fear of Jehovah.

7 When a man's ways please Jehovah, he makes even those hating him to be complete with him.

8 Better is a little with righteousness than abundant income without *righteous* judgment.

9 A man's heart calculates his way, and Jehovah sets up his steps.

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<sup>5</sup> 16:5 The meaning is that although those who exalt their hearts against Jehovah join hands with many others, they shall not be clean before God. In other words, a majority in numbers does not make right. God alone determines right. No one else gets a vote.

**PROVERBS 16,17** *Contrast of the worthless, the morally disgusting, etc. with the humble, etc.*

10 An oracle is in the lips of the king; his mouth does not act treacherously in judgment.

11 A just weight and balance *are* Jehovah's; his work *are* all the stones of the bag *for weighing*.

12 *It is* morally disgusting to kings to do wickedness, because the throne is set up by righteousness.

13 The delight of kings *is* righteous lips, and they love him who speaks upright things.

14 The hot anger of a king *is* a messenger of death, and a man of wisdom will cover it.

15 In the light of the king's face *is* life, and his delight *is* as a dark cloud of rain before harvest.

16 How much better it is to set up wisdom for possession than mined gold, and to set up understanding for a possession is to be chosen rather than silver!

17 The mounded up expressway of the upright *is* to depart from evil; he hedges about his soul who guards his way.

18 The face of brokenness *is* majesty, and the face of weak legged tottering *is* a lofty spirit.

19 Better *is* an humble spirit with the meek than to apportion the plunder by lot with the lofty.

20 He who is intelligently successful in a word shall find good, and he who trusts Jehovah, Oh how righteously happy he is.

21 The wise in heart shall be called discerning, and the sweetness of the lips increases instruction.

22 Intelligent success *is* a well of life to its lord, and the corrective discipline of fools *is* foolishness.

23 The heart of the wise makes his mouth intelligently successful, and adds to his lips instruction.

24 Pleasant words *are* as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and healing to the bones.

25 There is a way *that seems* right before the face of man, and its end *are* the ways of death.

26 The soul who toils, toils for himself, because his mouth places the load upon him.

27 A man of worthlessness digs up evil, and a burning fire *is* upon his lips.

28 A perverse man sends out strife, and a slanderer separates friends.

29 A man of violence lays his neighbor open and walks him into the way not good.

30 He shuts his eyes to calculate perverse things; biting his lips he finishes evil.

31 A crown of splendor *is* old age *when* it is found in the way of righteousness.

32 Better *is* he who waits long before *his* nostrils burn than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who captures a city.

33 The lot is thrown into the lap, and its whole verdict *belongs* to Jehovah.

**CHAPTER 17**

1 Better *is* a parched morsel and secure tranquility with it than a house full of sacrifices with controversy.

2 An intelligently successful servant shall rule over a son that causes paling in shame, and he shall be allotted an inheritance among the brothers.

3 The refining pot *is* for silver, and the furnace for gold, and Jehovah tests the hearts.

4 A vain *person* pricks up his ears to vain lips; a liar broadens his ear to a tongue of tempestuous ruin.

5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker; he who rejoices at his bending under oppression shall not be clean.

6 The crown of the old *are* children's children, and the splendor of children *are* their fathers.

7 A superior lip does not become the morally stupid, much less lying lips a generous *person*.

8 A stone of grace *is* a gift in the eyes of its lord; wherever it faces it is intelligently successful.

9 He who covers a transgression seeks love, and he who repeats a word separates friends.

10 A reproof sinks into the one understanding more than an hundred strokes into the one morally stupid.

11 The evil only seeks bitter rebellion, and a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.

12 Let a bereaved bear meet a man, and not the morally stupid in his foolishness.

13 Whoever returns evil in place of good, evil shall not be withdrawn from his house.

14 The beginning of controversy *is* like the bursting out of water, and thrust away the face of

an obstinate contest.

15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who declares the righteous wrong, are morally disgusting to Jehovah, yes, both.

16 Why this? A payment *is* in the hand of the morally stupid to set up for the possession of wisdom, and there exists *in him* no heart *for it*?

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

18 A man lacking heart slaps palms and becomes security before the face of his friend.

19 He who loves strife loves transgression; he who is lofty in the door seeks to be broken.

20 He who is of a perverse heart finds no good, and he who is of a changeable tongue falls into evil.

21 He who begets a morally stupid *one*, it *is* to his sorrow, and there is no rejoicing to the father of a morally stupid *one*.

22 A joyful heart makes good healing, and a broken spirit dries the bones.

23 The wicked takes a gift out of the bosom to bend away from the well-trod road of judgment.

24 Before the face of him who understands *is* wisdom, and the eyes of the morally stupid *are* on the ends of the earth.

25 A morally stupid son *is* a provocation to his father and a sorrow to her who bore him.

26 Also *it is* not good to inflict penalty on the righteous, to strike the generous for uprightness.

**PROVERBS 18** *Contrast of the man of understanding with the wicked and morally stupid*

27 He who restrains his sayings knows by seeing knowledge; a man of understanding *is* a cool<sup>27</sup> spirit.

28 Even a fool when he devises in silence is calculated wise; he who closes his lips *is counted as* understanding.

**CHAPTER 18**

1 By craving one separates himself, seeking all counsel, obstinately.<sup>1</sup>

2 The stupid is not inclined toward understanding, because it is not revealed to his heart.

3 When the wicked comes, disrespect also comes, and with contempt, disgrace.

4 As deep waters *are* the words of a man's mouth, a stream gushing forth, a well of wisdom.

5 To lift the face<sup>5</sup> of the wicked *is* not good, *nor* to bend away the righteous in judgment.

6 The lips of the morally stupid enter into controversy, and his mouth calls for hammer blows.

7 The mouth of the morally stupid *is* his ruin, and his lips are a snare to his soul.

<sup>27</sup> 17:27 **cool**, *qar*; to chill, cool, meaning to be quietly in control. The only reason we include this note is to explain that *The Heritage Bible* does not seek to use modern slang, but to show that, as in most cases, when youth think they are being very modern in using some word in a "new" way, they are only picking up a saying used from the beginning of time.

<sup>1</sup> 18:1 This verse describes the craving of the Pharisee, who separated themselves from the common people to seek wisdom, and then sometimes became proud and obstinate as described in Matt 23 and in St. Paul before he was converted.

<sup>5</sup> 18:5 **To lift the face** of someone is to favor him, to show respect of persons, that is, to show favoritism. Always remember that when you see this phrase.

8 The words of a slanderer are swallowed, and they go down into the apartments of the belly.

9 Also he who is slack in his work is brother to him who is a lord of ruin.

10 The name of Jehovah *is* a Strong Tower; the righteous runs into it and is safe.

11 *The* wealth of the rich *is* his strong city, and as a high wall in his own imagination.

12 Before the face of being broken the heart of man is lofty, and before the face of heavy glory *is* humility.

13 He who returns a word before he attentively hears, it *is* foolishness to him and a disgrace.

14 The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness, and who can lift a wounded spirit?

15 The heart of the discerning sets up to possess knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

16 A man's gift makes room for him, and it leads him before the face of the great.

17 He who *is* first in his own controversy *seems* righteous, but his neighbor comes and searches him out.

18 The lot causes contentions to cease and separates between the powerful.

19 A brother broken away *is* as a strong city, and their contentions are like the locks of a citadel.

20 A man shall fill his belly to satisfaction with the fruit of his mouth; he shall be satiated with the income of his lips.

*The power of the tongue; contrast of the poor with the rich; chastise your child* **PROVERBS 19**

21 Death and life *are* in the hand of the tongue, and they who love it shall eat its fruit.

22 He who finds a wife finds good and obtains the delight of Jehovah.

23 The poor speaks earnest prayers for grace, and the rich answers forcefully.

24 A man may be good for nothing to his friends, and there is a friend who sticks like a brother.

### CHAPTER 19

1 Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, than he who is perverse in his lips and who is morally stupid.

2 Also, the soul without knowledge is not good, and he who hurries with his feet sins.

3 The foolishness of man wrenches his way, and his heart boils up against Jehovah.

4 Wealth adds many friends, and the one dangling in need is separated from his neighbor.

5 A false witness *shall* not be clean, and he who breathes out lies shall not escape.

6 Many will rub the face of the generous, and everyone is a friend to a man with gifts.

7 All the brothers of the poor hate him; how much more his friends widely distance themselves from him! He runs after *them* with sayings that they *come* to him.

8 He who sets up to possess wisdom loves his own soul; he who hedges about understanding shall find good.

9 A false witness shall not be clean, and he who breathes out lies shall be lost.

10 Luxury is not suitable for the morally stupid, much less that a servant rule over chief rulers.

11 A man of intelligent success waits long before his nostrils burn, and it is his beauty to cross over a transgression.

12 As the growling of a young lion is the boiling rage of a king, and his being pleased *is* as dew upon the plants.

13 A morally stupid son *is* a tempestuous ruin to his father, and the contentions of a wife *are* as a continual dripping.

14 House and wealth *are* the inheritance of fathers, and an intelligently successful wife is from Jehovah.

15 Laziness causes *one* to fall into a deep sleep, and a treacherous soul shall hunger.

16 He who hedges about the commandment hedges about his own soul, and he who despises his ways shall die.

17 He joins himself to Jehovah who stoops down in grace to the one dangling in need, and he will make his treatment complete to him.

18 Chastise your son while there is a cord *of hope*, and do not lift your soul for his dying<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>18</sup> **19:18 dying**, *muth*, the regular word for die or be killed. It is normal for a child to think that you are killing him when you spank him, and he or she will tell you that you are killing him. You must ignore these exaggerations, and proceed with wise discipline. You should spank the seat of a child or the palm of the hand with a light instrument that stings and does not bruise. You should begin to apply spanking when the child is young, as soon as

**PROVERBS 20** *The power of self control as opposed to unbridled cravings; wine is a mocker*

19 He who harshly boils with anger must bear a penalty, because if you snatch *him* out, then constantly you must continue it.

20 Attentively hear counsel, and take corrective discipline that you may be wise in your latter end.

21 Many devices *are* in a man's heart, and the counsel of Jehovah, that shall rise.

22 The craving of a man is his mercy, and it is better to be poor than a man of lies.

23 The fear of Jehovah *is* life, and he who is satiated *with it* shall reside, not visited by evil.

24 The lazy hides his hand in his bosom, not even bringing it again to his mouth.

25 Strike a scoffer and one who is open will wise up, and set right one who understands and he will understand knowledge.

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the child knows what you are instructing him/her to do. Spank in the right way when a child is very young, and you will not need to spank him/her when he/she is older. You should spank when the child will not readily obey your spoken word. Never threaten to spank unless you intend to carry out your word. What makes for obedience and respect in the child is that the father and mother hedge about their own word to do it when they speak it. If you spank a child when necessary during kindergarten and the first grade or two, you will soon no longer need to spank. Your words will carry absolute authority without the instrument of physical punishment. You should not over discipline nor under discipline. Some parents correct their child with every word. Other parents never correct their child for anything. Both extremes are hurtful to the child. The child must have freedom to develop himself, but must not have a license to ruin himself and make others despise him. Only the Holy Spirit of wisdom in applying the Word of God can give fathers and mothers the wise balance they need. Always have prayer with the child before the spanking, and again after the spanking. Never spank unless you are in complete control of your own soul - your mind, your emotions, and your will. See Pro 22:15; 23:13-14.

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26 He who ravages his father, causing his mother to flee, *is* a son causing *him* to pale in shame and reproach.

27 *If* you cease, my son, to attentively hear the corrective discipline you stray from the sayings of knowledge.

28 A vain witness scoffs at judgment, and the mouth of the wicked swallows vanity.

29 Judgments are set up for scoffers, and strokes for the back of the morally stupid.

**CHAPTER 20**

1 Wine is a mocker; hard liquor is raging, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

2 As the growling of a young lion *is* the dread of a king; he who crosses over against him sins against his own soul.

3 It is heavy glory for a man to rest from controversy, and every fool will be obstinate.

4 The lazy will not plow because of the winter, and he shall beg in harvest, and there shall be nothing.

5 Counsel in the heart of man *is* like deep water, and a man of understanding will draw it out.

6 An abundance of men will call out, *each* man for his own kindness, and who can find a faithful man?

7 The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children *are* righteously happy after him.

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



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

10 A stone and a stone, a measure and a measure<sup>10</sup> are morally disgusting to Jehovah, even both of them.

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

12 An ear *is for* hearing, and an eye for seeing; Jehovah has made even both of them.

13 Do not love sleep, lest you be possessed; open your eyes; you shall be filled to satisfaction with food.

14 Evil! Evil! says the one setting up to purchase, and when he has disappeared, then he boasts.

15 There is gold, and an abundance of red corals, and lips of knowledge *are* a vessel heavy in honor.

16 Take his garment that is security for a stranger, and bind a pledge of him for a strange woman.

17 Pleasant to a man *is* food of deceit, and afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

18 What *you* devise by counsel is set up, and make war with management of the ropes.

19 He who walks as a scandal-monger reveals assembled counsels, and do not give security for him whose lips are open.

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<sup>10</sup> **20:10 A stone and a stone, *eben waa'eben, a measure and a measure, eeypaah wa'eeypaah.*** Dishonest traders kept two different weights of stones for the scales, and two different measuring containers under the counter. One was used for buying and the other for selling in order to dishonestly make a greater gain on the transactions.

20 He who makes light of his father and his mother, his lamp shall be extinguished, the little man of the eye, into darkness.

21 An inheritance *may be gotten* by trembling *in haste* at the beginning, and its end shall not be blessed.

22 Do not say, I will complete<sup>22</sup> evil; bind yourself in expectancy to Jehovah, and he shall save you. Notes Jud 1:7; 2 Sam 3:39; 2 Kng 9:36

23 A stone and a stone *are* morally disgusting to Jehovah, and a false pair of scales is not good.

24 A mighty man's steps *are* of Jehovah; how then can a man understand his own way?

25 *It is* a snare to a man to blurt out rashly about a holy thing and afterward vows to investigate *it*.

26 A wise king scatters the wicked, and turns back a wheel over them.

27 The lamp of Jehovah *is* the breath of man, searching all the apartments of the belly. Note Isa 42:5

28 Mercy and truth guard the king, and his throne is upheld by mercy.

29 The magnificence of youth *is* their power, and the beauty of the old is old age.

30 The stripes of a wound scours away evil, and disciplinary strokes *cleanses* the apartments of the belly.

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<sup>22</sup> **20:22 complete, *shalam,*** meaning I will cause you to reap what you sow, I will see to it that the evil you have done is complete so that you get what you deserve; in other words, vengeance. God commands us to bind ourselves in expectancy to Jehovah instead, to be concerned about our own relationship to Jehovah, and let Him take care of all vengeance.

## PROVERBS 21

*Contrast of the righteous with the wicked*

### CHAPTER 21

1 The king's heart *is* in the hand of Jehovah as the streams of water; wherever he is inclined, he turns it

2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, and Jehovah weighs out the hearts.

3 To do righteousness and judgment is chosen by Jehovah rather than sacrifice.

4 Raised eyes, and a broad heart, the plowing of the wicked *are* sin.

5 The devisings of those who dig it out *are* only abundance, and *the devisings* of every one who is hasty *is* only lack.

6 Working for treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity driven about by them who seek death.

7 The violence of the wicked shall drag them away roughly, because they refuse to do judgment.

8 The way of man *is* perverse and laden with guilt, and the pure, his work is upright.

9 It is better to dwell upon a pinnacle of the roof than in a house with a quarreling woman bound by a spell.<sup>9</sup> Pro 25:24

10 The soul of the wicked wishes for evil; he does not stoop down with grace to the eyes of his neighbor.

11 When a penalty is inflicted upon the scoffer, he who is open is made wise, and when the wise is made intelligently successful, he takes knowledge.

<sup>9</sup> 21:9 bound by a spell, *cheber*; the same word translated charmer in KJV.

12 The righteous is intelligently successful concerning the house of the wicked; the wicked are wrenched *away* in their evil.

13 Whoever closes his ears at the outcry of him who is dangling in need, he also shall call out, and shall not be answered.

14 A gift in secret subdues anger, and a reward in the bosom *subdues* forceful wrath.

15 *It is* joy to the righteous to do judgment, and destruction shall be to the workers of vanity.

16 The man who wanders out of the way of intelligent success, shall settle down in the assembly of the ghosts of the dead.

17 He who loves pleasure *shall be* a poor man; he who loves wine and oil *shall not be* rich.

18 The wicked *shall be* a cover for the righteous, and the deceitful *will be* in place of the upright.<sup>18</sup>

19 *It is* better to dwell in the desert land than with a contentious and provoking woman.

20 *There is* treasure to be desired and oil in the place of rest of the wise, and a morally stupid man gulps it down.

21 He who runs after righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness, and heavy glory.

<sup>18</sup> 21:18 The meaning of this verse is that God will reverse the roles of each. The righteous who were previously persecuted and mistreated will have their places taken by the wicked - the wicked will be sacrificed in the deliverance of the righteous, and the upright who were downtrodden will be replaced by the deceitful who will now be downtrodden. Just as Jesus was crucified for sinners, in the end the suffering of the righteous will be transferred over to those who do not repent.

*Contrast of the arrogant with the humble; initiate discipline in a child*

## PROVERBS 22

22 The wise ascends the city of the mighty and throws down the strength of its confidence.

23 He who hedges about his mouth and his tongue hedges about his soul from troubles.

24 An Arrogant Haughty Scoffer is his name, who does arrogant wrath.

25 The craving of the lazy kills him, because his hands refuse to do.

26 All the day he wishes after a craving, and the righteous gives and does not hold back.

27 The sacrifice of the wicked is morally disgusting, yes, because he goes with an *evil* scheme.

28 A false witness shall lose, and a man who attentively hears speaks *his* goal.

29 A wicked man hardens his face, and the upright understands his way.

30 There is no wisdom, and there is no understanding, and there is no plan in front of Jehovah.

31 The horse is set up for the day of battle, and Jehovah *is* salvation.

### CHAPTER 22

1 A good name *is* to be chosen more than great riches, good grace more than silver and gold.

2 The rich and poor meet together; Jehovah *is* the maker of them all.

3 The cunning sees the evil and hides himself, and those who are open cross on and are punished.

4 After humble fear of Jehovah *are* riches, and heavy glory, and life.

5 Thorny springnets *are* in the way of the perverse; he who hedges about his soul widely distances himself from them.

6 Initiate discipline in a child upon his mouth<sup>6</sup> for his way; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

7 The rich rules over the poor, and he who is bound in obligation *is* servant to him who bound him in obligation.

8 He who sows iniquity shall reap vanity, and the branch of his anger shall end.

9 He who has a good eye shall be blessed, because he gives of his food to him who is dangling in need.

10 Drive out the scoffer, and contention shall go out, and lawsuit and disgrace shall cease.

11 He who loves purity of heart, grace *is* on his lips; the king shall be his friend.

12 The eyes of Jehovah guard knowledge, and he wrenches the words of the deceitful.

13 The lazy says, A lion *is* outside; I shall be torn to pieces in the streets.

<sup>6</sup> 22:6 **Initiate discipline in a child upon his mouth for his way**, *Chanok lana'ar al piy darkow*, literally, initiate a child upon his mouth for his way. One of the first disciplines that must be placed upon a child is discipline upon his mouth. At the very earliest stage when the child begins to show a pattern of behavior and is learning to speak words and sentences is the time to discipline, train, and direct a child's mouth and behavior into the right way. Patterns developed and set in the earliest years remain into old age. The words out of a child's mouth immediately show the direction of his life.

## PROVERBS 23

*attentively hear the words of the wise; self-control in eating*

14 The mouth of an adulterous woman *is* a deep chasm; he at whom Jehovah is enraged shall fall there.

15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; a limb of corrective discipline shall widely distance it from him. Note Pro 19:18

16 He who oppresses him who is dangling in need to increase what is his, and he who gives to the rich, surely *shall be* impoverished.

17 Spread out your ear, and attentively hear the words of the wise, and place your heart in my knowledge,

18 Because it is delightful that you hedge them about in your bosom; they shall be set up as a unit upon your lips.

19 I have caused you to know today that your refuge may be in Jehovah, even you.

20 Have I not written to you the highest order in counsels and knowledge,

21 That I might cause you to know evenly weighed sayings of truth, that you might return sayings of truth to them who send to you?

22 Do not pluck off from him who is dangling in need because he is dangling in need, and do not crush the afflicted in the gate,

23 Because Jehovah will defend their cause, and deceive the soul of those who deceived them.

24 Do not associate with a lord of burning nostrils, and do not go with a furious man,

25 Lest you learn his well-trod ways, and take a snare to your soul.

26 Do not be one who slaps palms with them who become security for loans.

27 If there is nothing with you to make it complete, why should he take away your bed from beneath you?

28 Do not remove the ancient boundary line which your fathers have made.

29 Have you gazed at a man skillful in his work? He shall be placed before the face of kings; he shall not be placed before the face of the obscure.

## CHAPTER 23

1 When you sit down to eat with a ruler, understanding, understand what is before your face,

2 And put a knife to your throat, if you *are* a lord of soul.<sup>3</sup>

3 Do not wish for his delicacies, for they are deceitful food.

4 Do not toil to be rich; cease from your own understanding.

5 Will you cover your eyes in darkness with such, and it is not? Because making, it will make itself

<sup>3</sup> 23:2 lord of soul, *ba'al nephesh*, literally a lord of soul. The word *ba'al* occurs 84 times in the Hebrew Bible; 15 times meaning husband or lord of a wife, and 50 times referring to a false god. Its basic meaning is lord, or master, or owner. The personality of the human is his soul, where his mind, emotions, and will reside; thus in your soul reside your appetites, physical, soulical, and if spiritually crucified and renewed, your spiritual appetites as well. Remember also, that the soul of the flesh is in the blood, Lev 17:11. So, a **lord of soul**, would be someone who feels he is a master or lord at expressing the appetites in his blood and soul. God commands us that when you have the opportunity to eat finely prepared delicacies as would be on a king's table, to put a knife to your throat, that is, exercise discipline in not overeating these things you are not used to, and are not good for you.

wings; it flies away as an eagle into the heavens.

6 Do not eat food with an evil eye, and do not desire his delicacies,

7 Because as he keeps the gate of his heart, so *is* he; he says to you, Eat and drink, and his heart fails *to be* with you.

8 You shall vomit up the morsel you have eaten, and ruin your delightful words.

9 Do not speak in the ears of the morally stupid, because he will despise the intelligent success of your words.

10 Do not remove the old boundary line, and do not go into the fields of the bereaved,

11 Because their kinsman redeemer is strong; he will defend their cause with you.

12 Bring your heart to corrective discipline, and your ears to the sayings of knowledge.

13 Do not withhold corrective discipline from the child; for if you strike him with the limb he shall not die. Note Pro 19:18

14 You will strike him with the limb, and you will snatch his soul from the world of the dead.

15 My son, if your heart is wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.

16 And my kidneys shall jump for joy when your lips speak upright things.

17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, but be in the fear of Jehovah all the day,

18 Because lo, there is an end, and your cord *of hope* shall not be cut off.

19 You, hear attentively, my son, and be wise, and let your heart be straight in the way.

20 Do not be among those who drink wine to intoxication; *do not be* among riotous eaters of meat,

21 Because he who drinks to intoxication and the riotous eater shall be possessed, and he shall be clothed with rags who sleeps too much.

22 Attentively hear your father, that one who begot you, and do not despise your mother because she is old.

23 Set up to possess the truth, and do not sell wisdom, and corrective discipline, and understanding.

24 The father of the righteous spinning in emotion shall spin in emotion, and he who begets a wise *child* shall rejoice in him.

25 Your father shall rejoice, and your mother, even she who bore you, shall spin in emotion.

26 My son, give your heart to me, and let your eyes be pleased with my ways,

27 Because a whore is a deep chasm, and an adulterous woman is an oppressive pit.

28 She also lies in wait for robbery, and she increases the acts of deceit among men.

29 To whom *is* lamentation? To whom *is* poverty? To whom *are* contentions? To whom *is* babbling? To whom *are* wounds without cause? To whom *are* bleary eyes?

**PROVERBS 24** *The wounds of alcoholic beverages; Do not be envious against evil men*

30 To them who tarry long at the wine, to them who go to search out mixed wine.

31 Do not see the wine when it brings the blood to your face, when it gives in the cup its eye, when it walks upright.

32 In the end it strikes with a sting like a serpent, and it wounds like a viper.

33 Your eyes shall see adultery, and your heart shall speak perverse things.

34 And you shall be as he who lies down in the heart of the sea, and as he who lies down upon the head of a mast.

35 *You shall say*, They have struck me, *yet* I was not worn down; they have beaten me, I did not know it; when I awake I will continue to seek it again.

**CHAPTER 24**

1 Do not be envious against evil men, and do not desire to be with them,

2 Because their heart mummors in pleasure at destruction, and their lips speak wearisome toil.

3 A house is built through wisdom, and it is set up by understanding;

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

5 A mighty wise man is strong, and a man of knowledge is powerfully alert to power,

6 Because by management of the ropes you shall make your war, and in an abundance of counselors is salvation.

7 Wisdom *is* too high for a fool; he does not open his mouth in the gate.

8 He who calculates evil shall be called, A lord of evil plans.

9 The scheme of foolishness *is* sin, and the scoffer *is* morally disgusting to men.

10 If you slack off in the day of adversity, your power *is* oppressed.

11 If you refuse to snatch them out who are caught by death, and those wavering into the slaughter,

12 Because you say, Lo, we did not know this! Does he who weighs the heart not discern it? And he who guards your soul, does he not know by seeing it? And shall he not return to every man according to his works?

13 My son, eat honey, because *it is* good, and the honeycomb *is* sweet to your taste,

14 So, knowing wisdom *will be* to your soul; when you have found it, then there shall be a future, and your cord *of hope* shall not be cut off.

15 Oh wicked *man*, do not lie in wait against the place of rest of the righteous; do not ravage where he lies down,

16 Because a righteous *man* falls seven *times*, and rises, and the wicked shall totter weak legged into evil.

17 When he who hates you falls, do not rejoice, and when he totters weak legged, do not let your heart spin with emotion;

18 Lest Jehovah see, and it is good for nothing in his eyes, and he turns back his burning nostrils from him.

19 Do not get heated up because of evil; do not be envious at the wicked,

20 Because there shall be no future to the evil; the lamp of the wicked shall be extinguished.

21 My son, fear Jehovah and the king; do not give security for them who are duplicit,

22 Because their bending under oppression shall rise suddenly, and who knows the calamity of their duplicity?

23 Also, these *belong* to the wise: to recognize faces in judgment is not good;

24 He who says to the wicked, You *are* righteous; the people shall puncture him; communities shall be enraged at him;

25 And delight shall be to them who are right, and a good blessing shall come upon them.

26 He shall kiss the lips that return a straightforward word.

27 Set up your work outdoors, and prepare the field for yourself, and afterwards build your house.

28 Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, nor cause your lips to be open *against him*.

29 Do not say, What I will do to him *is* just as he has done to me; I will turn back to the man according to his work.

30 I went by the field of the lazy man, and by the vineyard of the man lacking heart,

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

32 Then I gazed at a vision; I placed it in my heart; I saw; I received corrective discipline.

33 Yet a little sleep, a little drowsiness, a little clasping of the hands to lie down,

34 And your poverty shall come walking, and your lack as a man with a shield.

### CHAPTER 25

1 These also *are* proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah, transcribed.

2 *It is* the heavy glory of God to conceal a word, and the heavy glory of kings is to examine a word intimately.

3 The heavens for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings cannot be searched.

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

5 Take away the wicked from before the face of the king, and his throne shall be set up in righteousness.

6 Do not swell up in pride before the face of the king, and do not stand in the place of the great,

7 Because *it is* better that it be said to you, Come up here, than that you should be humiliated before the face of the generous whom your eyes have seen.

8 Do not go out to contend hastily, lest what is done in the end, *is*, your neighbor reproached you.

## PROVERBS 26

*Proverbs on self-control and treatment of enemies*

9 Defend your controversy with your neighbor, and do not reveal an assembled counsel to another,

10 Lest he who attentively hears it put you to shame, and your infamy does not turn away.

11 Apples of gold in pictures of silver *are like* a word spoken in its proper season.

12 As a nose ring of gold, and an ornament of mined gold, *so is* a wise one who is right upon a hearing ear.

13 As the piercing cold of snow in the day of harvest *is* he who presses on faithfully to them who send him, and he refreshes the soul of his lord.

14 Clouds and wind and no rain *is as* a man who boasts himself of a false gift.

15 By waiting long before *your* nostrils burn you make a magistrate open *to you*, and a tender tongue breaks the bone.

16 Have you found honey? Eat just enough for you, lest you be satiated, and vomit it.

17 Make your foot rare in your neighbor's house, lest he be satiated with you, and hate you.

18 As a hammer and a sword and a pointed arrow *so is* a man who answers against his neighbor a false witness.

19 A broken tooth and a foot out of joint *are like* confidence in *the* deceitful in a day of pressure.

20 As he who adorns clothing in a cold day, as vinegar upon niter, *so is* he who sings songs to an evil heart.

21 If he who hates you is hungry, give him food to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink,

Rom 12:20

22 Because you shall heap burning coals upon his head, and Jehovah shall make it complete to you.

23 *The* north wind twists away *the* rain, and an enraged face a deceiving<sup>2,3</sup> tongue.

24 It is better to dwell upon the pinnacle of the roof *than* with a quarreling woman bound with a spell and in a house.

25 *As* cold waters to a thirsty soul *so is* good news from a distant land.

26 *As* a fountain muddied with the feet and a ruined well *so is* a righteous *man* wavering before the face of the wicked.

27 To eat much honey *is* not good, and to search out your own heavy glory *is* not heavy glory.

28 A man without control over his own spirit *is as* a city broken down without walls.

## CHAPTER 26

1 As snow when the fruit is ripe, and as rain in harvest, *so* heavy glory is not suitable for him who is stupid.

2 As the sparrow in its wandering, as the swallow in its flying, *so* the curse shall not come without cause.

<sup>23</sup> 25:23 **deceiving**, *cether*, to cover or hide. It refers to a person who is trying to hide something by not speaking the truth. An enraged face will drive him from his purpose to cover up the truth.



*How what you do comes back to you; avoid laziness, meddling, slandering* **PROVERBS 26**

3 A lash for the horse, a bit for the donkey, and a limb for the stupid one's back.

4 Do not answer a stupid one according to his foolishness, lest you also be like him.

5 Answer a stupid one according to his foolishness, lest he be wise in his own eyes.

6 He cuts off the feet and drinks the damage who sends a word by the hand of him who is stupid.

7 The legs of the lame are feeble, as a proverb in the mouth of one who is stupid.

8 As he who binds a stone in a pile of stones, so is he who gives heavy glory to a fool.

9 As a thorn goes up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a proverb in the mouth of one who is stupid.

10 *The* Great One twisted all *things* together, and he employs the stupid, and employs those who cross over against him.

11 As a dog returns to his vomit, one who is stupid duplicates his foolishness. <sup>2 Pet 2:22</sup>

12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is* more cord of hope for a fool than for him.

13 The lazy says, A roaring lion *is* in the way! A tearing lion *is* in the streets.

14 The door turns upon its pressure points, and the lazy upon his bed.

15 The lazy hides his hand in his bosom; it wearies him to bring it to his mouth again.

16 The lazy *is* wiser in his own eyes than seven who can return what they know by experience.<sup>16</sup>

17 He who crossing over, crosses over to a controversy *that is* not his *is* like one who seizes a dog by the ears.

18 As one mad who causes firebrands, arrows, and death to flow,

19 So *is* the man who deceives his neighbor and says, Am I not playing?

20 Where no wood is the fire goes out, and *if* there is no slanderer the quarrel ceases.

21 As coal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire so is a contentious man to kindle controversy.

22 The words of a slanderer *are* as burns, and they go down into the apartments of the belly.

23 Flaming lips and a wicked heart *are* like silver dross sheeted over a piece of pottery.

24 His hating is recognized by his lips, and he places deceit in his insides;

25 Though he speaks stooping down in grace do not believe him, because seven morally disgusting things *are* in his heart.

26 Hatred is covered by deceit; its wickedness is revealed in an assembly.

27 Whoever digs a pit shall fall in it, and he who rolls a stone, it will turn back upon him.

28 A lying tongue hates those crushed, and a smooth mouth works an overthrow.

<sup>16</sup> 26:16 what they know by experience is one word, *ta'am*, meaning to taste, and knowledge obtained by taste or experience.

CHAPTER 27

1 Do not boast of tomorrow, because you do not know by seeing what a day may beget.

2 Let a foreigner boast about you and not your own mouth, a stranger and not your own lips.

3 A stone *is* heavy, and the sand *is* a burden, and a fool's provoking *is* heavier than them both.

4 Wrath *is* fierce, and anger *is* a deluge, and who *can* stand before the face of envy?

5 Better *is* revealed rebuke than hidden love.

6 The wounds of one who loves you *are* faithful, and many are the kisses of one who hates you.

Mat 26:49

7 The satiated soul tramples a honeycomb under foot, and to the hungry soul every bitter thing *is* sweet.

8 As a sparrow that is driven from her nest, so is a man who is driven from his place.

9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart; so does the pleasantness of a man's friend by counsel from the soul.

10 Do not forsake your own friend and your father's friend, and do not go into your brother's house in the day of your bending under oppression; better is a fellow citizen near than a brother far off.

11 Be wise, my son, and rejoice my heart, and I will return a word to him who reproaches me.

12 A cunning *man* sees the evil; he hides, but those who are open cross on; they are punished.

13 Take his garment, because a stranger has become security, and bind him in pledge for a strange woman.

14 He who blesses his friend with a loud voice, loading up early in the dawn, it shall be calculated a curse to him.

15 A continual dripping in a day of pouring rain and a contentious woman are alike.

16 Whoever hides her hides the wind, and the ointment of his right hand calls it out.

17 Iron sharpens iron, and a man sharpens the face of his friend.

18 Whoever guards the fig tree shall eat its fruit, and he who hedges about his lord shall receive heavy glory.

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

20 The world of the dead and destruction are never satiated, and the eyes of man are never satiated.

21 The refining pot *is* for silver, and the furnace *is* for gold; so *let* a man *be* to the mouth that praises him.<sup>21</sup>

22 Though you should pound a fool in a mortar<sup>22</sup> among wheat with a pestle, his foolishness will not depart from him.

23 Knowing, know the face of your flocks; place your heart on your flocks,

<sup>21</sup> 27:21 The meaning of the verse is: Let a man be as a refinery to thoroughly examine all praise that he receives, by refining it as the metals, and not become proud..

<sup>22</sup> 27:22 a mortar is the round depressed place in a rock or other hard container where you place grain to beat it into meal or flour. The pestle is the instrument with which you pound the grain.

24 Because riches are not forever, nor a crown from generation to generation?

25 The grass appears, and the tender sprout is seen, and plants are gathered in the mountains.

26 The lambs are for your clothing, and the wages of the field *are* the goats,

27 And enough goats' milk for your food, for the food of your house, and for the life of your girls.

### CHAPTER 28

1 The wicked flee when no man pursues, and the righteous are confident as a lion.

2 By the transgression of a land its chief rulers are many, and it shall be prolonged by a man of understanding who knows right.

3 A destitute mighty man who oppresses those dangling in need *is like* a sweeping rain which leaves no food.

4 They who forsake the law boast in the wicked, and those who hedge about the law are angry with them.

5 Evil mortal men do not understand judgment, and they who seek Jehovah understand all.

6 Better is the poor who walks in his completeness, than he who is perverse in his ways and rich.

7 Whoever guards the law *is* an understanding son, and he who associates with prodigals reproaches his father.

8 He who increases his wealth by interest on debt and a percentage of the principal, he shall

collect it for him who will stoop down in grace to those dangling in need.

9 He who turns away his ear from attentively hearing the law, even his prayer shall be morally disgusting.

10 Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, shall fall into his own pit, and the complete shall inherit good.

11 The rich man *is* wise in his own eyes, and the one dangling in need who understands searches him out.

12 When the righteous jump for joy there is abundant luxury, and when the wicked rise man conceals himself.

13 He who covers his transgression shall not prosper, and whoever holds up his hand and forsakes *it* shall receive compassion.

14 Righteously happy is the man who fears always, and he who hardens his heart shall fall into evil.

15 A roaring lion and a ranging bear *are as* a wicked ruler over people dangling in need.

16 The commander who lacks understanding *is* also a great oppressor; he who hates plunder shall prolong *his* days.

17 A man who oppresses the blood of any soul shall flee to the pit; let none help him.

18 Whoever walks in completeness shall be saved, and he who is perverse *in his* ways shall fall at once.

19 He who works his land shall be filled to satisfaction with food, and he who runs after vain

## PROVERBS 29

*The faithful contrasted with the anxious and hardened*

persons shall be satiated with poverty.

20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings, and he who hurries to be rich shall not be clean.

21 To recognize faces *is* not good, and a mighty man will transgress for a morsel of food.

22 He who trembles *in haste* to be rich *has* an evil eye, and does not know that lack shall come to him.

23 He who sets a man right shall find grace afterwards, rather than he who is smooth with the tongue.

24 Whoever plucks off from his father or his mother, and says, It is no transgression, he is the companion of a man of ruin.

25 A broad soul scrapes up a quarrel, and he who trusts Jehovah shall be anointed.

26 He who trusts in his own heart *is* stupid, and he who walks wisely shall escape.

27 He who gives to the poor shall not lack, and to him who hides his eyes *shall be* many a curse.

28 When the wicked rise, men hide themselves, and when they are destroyed, the righteous increase.

## CHAPTER 29

1 A man having often received rebuke *who* hardens *his* neck shall be broken in a wink, and there exists no cure.

2 When the righteous are increased the people rejoice, and when the wicked rule the people mourn.

3 A man who loves wisdom rejoices his father, and he who associates with harlots causes his wealth to be lost.

4 A king by judgment causes the land to stand, and a man *who loves* gifts pulls it down.

5 A mighty man *being* smooth with his neighbor spreads out a net for his feet.

6 In the transgression of an evil man *there is* a snare, and the righteous shout and rejoice.

7 The righteous knows by seeing the cause of those dangling in need; the wicked do not understand knowledge.

8 Scornful men fan the flame to burn a city, and the wise turn away burning nostrils.

9 A wise man judges with a foolish man, and he is agitated and he laughs, and there is no rest.

10 Mortal man of blood hates the morally complete, and the upright seek his soul.

11 The stupid will bring out all *that is* in his spirit, but the wise soothes it until it is behind *him*.

12 A ruler who pricks up his ears to lying words, all his servants *are* wicked.

13 The poor and the oppressive man meet together; Jehovah enlightens both their eyes.

14 The king who judges in truth those dangling in need, his throne shall be set up forever.

15 The limb and rebuke give wisdom, and a child let go causes his mother to pale in shame. Note

Pro 19:18

16 When the wicked are multiplied, transgression multiplies, and the righteous shall see their fall.

17 Correct your son, and he shall be at rest, and he shall give pleasure to your soul.

18 Where there is no vision the people are stripped, and he who hedges about the law, how happy is he!

19 A servant will not be corrected by words when he understands and will not reply.

20 Have you gazed at a man hasty in his words? *There is* more cord *of hope* for the stupid than him.

21 He who delicately brings up from childhood his servant, he shall be a son *at the* last.

22 A man with burning nostrils scrapes up strife, and a lord of anger abounds in transgression.

23 *The* arrogance of man humiliates him, and humbleness in spirit sustains heavy glory.

24 Whoever casts his lot with a thief hates his own soul; he attentively hears cursing, and does not cause it to be manifest.

25 The fear of man gives a snare, and whoever trusts Jehovah shall be safe.

26 Many seek *the* ruler's face, and man's judgment *is* from Jehovah.

27 An evil man *is* morally disgusting to the righteous, and the upright in the way *is* morally disgusting to the wicked.

## CHAPTER 30

1 The words of Agur,<sup>1</sup> the son of Jakeh; The Burden; An Oracle of the mighty man to Ithiel, to Ithiel and Ucal:

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

3 And I was not taught wisdom, and I did not know knowledge of the holy.

4 Who has ascended up into the heavens, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has raised all the ends of the earth? What *is* his name, and what *is* his son's name, if you know?<sup>4</sup>

5 Every saying of God *is* refined pure; he *is* a shield to them who flee to him for refuge.

6 Do not add to his words lest he sets you right, and you be found a liar.

7 I have required of you two *things*; do not deny them to me before I die;

8 Widely distance from me ruin and lying words; do not give me poverty nor riches; tear to

<sup>1</sup> **30:1** Agur, a Hebrew name meaning gathered or received among the wise, and is a name for Solomon. Jakeh, a Hebrew name meaning obedient, meaning that Solomon, who gathered among the wise, was a son of obedience.

<sup>4</sup> **30:4** To me this verse is a clear teaching on God the Father and God the Son. **Who has ascended up into the heavens, and descended?** The answer is God. **Who has gathered the wind in his fists?** The answer is God. **Who has bound the waters in a garment?** The answer is God. **Who has raised all the ends of the earth?** The answer is God. **What is his name,** The answer is Jehovah, **and what is his son's name, if you know?** The answer is Jesus, the Messiah.

**PROVERBS 30***Respect for parents and those over you; Illustrations from nature and life*

pieces for me food enacted for me,

9 Lest I be satiated and be untrue, and say, Who *is* Jehovah? Or lest I be possessed *by others*, and steal, and manipulate the name of my God.

10 Do not wag your tongue against a servant to his lord, lest he make light of you, and you be found guilty.

11 *There is* a generation who makes light of their father, and does not bless their mother.

12 *There is* a generation pure in their own eyes, and is not washed from their excrement.

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

14 *There is* a generation, their teeth are as swords, and their biters *are* as knives to devour those looked down on with harshness from off the earth and the poor from among men.

15 *There are* two daughters to the leech, Give, Give. They *are* three who are never satisfied; four who will not say, Enough!

16 The world of the dead, and the closed womb; the earth not filled with water, and the fire does not say, Enough!

17 The eye that mocks his father and despises obedience to his mother, the ravens of the stream shall dig it out, and the offspring of eagles shall eat it.

18 *There are* three *which are* too wonderful for me, and four which I do not know;

19 The way of an eagle in the heavens; the way of a serpent upon a boulder; the way of a ship in the heart of the sea; and the way of a mighty man with a veiled young lady.

20 Thus is the way of an adulterous woman: she eats, and wipes her mouth, and says, I have not done vanity.

21 For three *things* the earth is agitated, and for four it is not able to bear;

22 For a servant when he reigns, and a fool when he is filled with food;

23 For a hateful woman when she is married, and a maidservant that is heir to her lady lord.

24 *There are* four *things* little upon the earth, and they being wise *are* wise;

25 The ants *are* a people not forceful, and they set up their food in the harvest;

26 The rock rabbit<sup>26</sup> *are* not a powerful people, and they put their houses in the lofty rocks;

27 *There is* no king to the locusts, and they all go out to cut off;

28 The lizard takes hold with her hands, and she *is* in kings' palaces.

<sup>26</sup> **30:26 rock rabbit**, *shaphan*, which comes from the word to conceal, that is, hide in the rocks. Strong says, a species of rock rabbit. Gesenius says: a quadruped (which chews the cud like a hare) Lev. 11:5; Deu. 14:7; which lives gregariously in the rocks and is remarkable for its cunning, Ps. 104:18; Prov. 30:26. The Rabbins render it *coney*; more correctly the LXX. in three places, *xoirogrullios*, that is, *mus jacuus* Linn., Arab...*Jerboa*, an animal of the size of the coney, with a head resembling that of a hog, with long hind legs fitted for leaping; it inhabits burrows dug in the mud, and is remarkably cunning. It is either so called from its burrows in which it hides itself, or from its cunning.

*Illustrations from life; do not indulge in women and drink; A woman of resources* **PROVERBS 31**

29 There *are* three *things* which pace well, and four are good in walking;

30 A lion, strongest among animals, and does not turn back from the face of any;

31 One girt around the loins;<sup>3</sup><sup>1</sup> also a he goat; and a king, against whom *there is* no rising up.

32 If you have been foolish in lifting up yourself, or if you have planned evil, *lay* your hand upon your mouth.

33 Since the squeezing of milk brings forth curdled milk, and the squeezing of the nose brings forth blood, then the squeezing of burning nostrils brings forth controversy.

### CHAPTER 31

1 The words of king Lemuel,<sup>1</sup> the burden with which his mother disciplined him. <sup>2</sup> Kng 9:25

2 What, my heir? And what, the heir of my womb? And what, the heir of my vows?

3 Do not give your resources to women, nor your ways to that which rubs out kings.

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<sup>31</sup> **30:31 One girt around the loins**, *zarziyr maatanayim*, literally one girt about the loins. The KJV has greyhound. Against this, there is no evidence in the Bible or elsewhere that Hebrews kept or used dogs for any purpose. Dogs are always spoken of as detested roving scavengers of the community. Various authorities have guessed everything from a war-horse girded for battle to a human runner girded for the race. All admit that none today know what specific animal or human was meant. No specific animal or human may have been intended. Agur may have simply meant any animal or human girt for the race or battle, which seems most reasonable.

<sup>1</sup> **31:1 Lemuel**, one belonging to God, another name for Solomon.

<sup>5</sup> **31:5 re-do**, *shanah*, to duplicate, to do again, to change by re-doing it. The idea is

4 *It is* not for kings, Oh Lemuel, *it is* not for kings to drink wine; and how can those weighty in position drink hard liquor?

5 Lest they drink, and forget the inscribed law, and re-do<sup>5</sup> the judgment of any of the children of the afflicted.

6 Give hard liquor to him who is ready to be lost *from this life*, and wine to those in bitterness of soul.<sup>6-7</sup>

7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his wearisome toil no more.

8 Open your mouth for those who cannot speak in the cause of all orphan children.

9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of those looked down on with harshness and poor.

10 Who can find a woman of resources? And her price *is* far above red corals.

11 The heart of her lord trusts in her, and he does not lack gain.

12 She treats him well and not evil all the days of her life.

13 She treads seeking wool and flax, and works willingly with her palms.

14 She is like the merchants' ships; she brings her food from afar.

15 And she rises repeatedly at night, and gives fresh food to her house, and an enactment to her

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that a heavy drinker of alcoholic beverages could be persuaded to do a judgment a second time, and change it in favor of the rich and powerful and against the afflicted who has no resources.

<sup>6-7</sup> **31:6-7** Note that alcohol is to be used for pain and emotional exhaustion, as doctors use drugs.

## PROVERBS 31

*A woman of resources*

young ladies.

16 She plans a field, and takes it; she plants a vineyard with the fruit of her palms.

17 She girds her loins with strength, and makes her arms powerfully alert.

18 She perceives that her merchandise is good; her lamp does not go out at night.

19 She sends out her hands to the spindle, and her palms hold the staff.

20 She spreads out her palms to those looked down on with harshness, and she sends out her hands to the poor.

21 She is not afraid of the snow for her house, because all her house are clothed with crimson.

22 She makes herself coverings; her clothing *are* white linen and purple.

23 Her lord is known in the gates, when he sits as judge with the elders of the land.

24 She makes long undergarments, and sells *them*, and delivers belts to the merchant.

25 Strength and magnificence *are* her garments, and she will laugh in the last day.

26 She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the law of mercy *is* upon her tongue.

27 She leans forward and watches over the processions of her house, and she does not eat the food of laziness.

28 Her children rise up and call her righteously happy; her lord, and he praises her.

29 Many daughters have done resourcefully, and you ascend above them all.

30 Favor *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain; a woman who fears Jehovah, she shall be praised.

31 Give her the fruit of her hands, and her works praise her in the gates.