

Topical Study of Proverbs Chapters 10-29

This Topical Guide of the Book of Proverbs is by F. Lagard Smith as found in *The Daily Bible*, Harvest House Publishers. The translation has been changed to New King James Version from the version used in *The Daily Bible* (NIV).

Preeminence of God

Fear of the Lord

- 10:27 The fear of the LORD prolongs days, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.
- 14:2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD, But *he who is* perverse in his ways despises Him.
- 14:26 In the fear of the LORD *there is* strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge.
27 The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, To turn *one* away from the snares of death.
- 15:33 The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom, And before honor *is* humility.
- 16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD *one* departs from evil.
- 19:23 The fear of the LORD *leads* to life, And *he who has it* will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.
- 22:4 By humility *and* the fear of the LORD *Are* riches and honor and life.
- 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But *be zealous* for the fear of the LORD all the day;
- 24:21 My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;

Trust in God

- 14:12 & 16:25 There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death.
- 16:3 Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established.
- 16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy *is* he.
- 18:4 The words of a man's mouth *are* deep waters; The wellspring of wisdom *is* a flowing brook.
- 18:10 The name of the LORD *is* a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.
- 19:3 The foolishness of a man twists his way, And his heart frets against the LORD.

- 20:24 A man's steps *are* of the LORD; How then can a man understand his own way?
- 21:22 A wise *man* scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.
- 26:12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is* more hope for a fool than for him.
- 28:26 He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.
- 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Providence of God

- 15:3 The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.
- 16:1 The preparations of the heart *belong* to man, But the answer of the tongue *is* from the LORD.
- 16:4 The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.
- 16:9 A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.
- 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision *is* from the LORD.
- 19:21 There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD's counsel—that will stand.
- 21:30 *There is* no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the LORD.
31 The horse *is* prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance *is* of the LORD.
- 22:12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, But He overthrows the words of the faithless.
- 27:1 Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth.

Insight & Ignorance

Wisdom and folly

- 13:14 The law of the wise *is* a fountain of life,
To turn *one* away from the snares of death.
- 14:24 The crown of the wise is their riches,
But the foolishness of fools *is* folly.
- 15:24 The way of life *winds* upward for the wise,
That he may turn away from hell below.
- 16:22 Understanding *is* a wellspring of life to him who has it.
But the correction of fools *is* folly.
- 17:12 Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs,
Rather than a fool in his folly.
- 24:7 Wisdom *is* too lofty for a fool;
He does not open his mouth in the gate.
- 24:13 My son, eat honey because *it is* good,
And the honeycomb *which is* sweet to your taste;
14 So *shall* the knowledge of wisdom *be* to your soul;
If you have found *it*, there is a prospect,
And your hope will not be cut off.

Dealing with fools

- 26:4-11 Do not answer a fool according to his folly,
Lest you also be like him.
5 Answer a fool according to his folly,
Lest he be wise in his own eyes.
6 He who sends a message by the hand of a fool
Cuts off *his own* feet *and* drinks violence.
7 *Like* the legs of the lame that hang limp
Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.
8 *Like* one who binds a stone in a sling
Is he who gives honor to a fool.
9 *Like* a thorn *that* goes into the hand of a drunkard
Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.
10 The great *God* who formed everything
Gives the fool *his* hire and the transgressor *his* wages.
11 As a dog returns to his own vomit,
So a fool repeats his folly.
- 27:22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain,
Yet his foolishness will not depart from him.

29:9 *If* a wise man contends with a foolish man,
Whether *the fool* rages or laughs, *there is* no peace.

Discernment and understanding

10:13 Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding,
But a rod *is* for the back of him who is devoid of understanding.

10:23 To do evil *is* like sport to a fool,
But a man of understanding has wisdom.

13:15 Good understanding gains favor,
But the way of the unfaithful *is* hard.

14:6 A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not *find it*,
But knowledge *is* easy to him who understands.

14:8 The wisdom of the prudent *is* to understand his way,
But the folly of fools *is* deceit.

14:15 The simple believes every word,
But the prudent considers well his steps.

14:33 Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding,
But *what is* in the heart of fools is made known.

15:21 Folly *is* joy to *him who is* destitute of discernment,
But a man of understanding walks uprightly.

16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold!
And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

17:24 Wisdom *is* in the sight of him who has understanding,
But the eyes of a fool *are* on the ends of the earth.

19:8 He who gets wisdom loves his own soul;
He who keeps understanding will find good.

20:5 Counsel in the heart of man *is like* deep water,
But a man of understanding will draw it out.

20:12 The hearing ear and the seeing eye,
The LORD has made them both.

Knowledge

10:14 Wise *people* store up knowledge,
But the mouth of the foolish *is* near destruction.

13:16 Every prudent *man* acts with knowledge,

- But a fool lays open *his* folly.
- 14:18 The simple inherit folly,
But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
- 15:14 The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge,
But the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.
- 18:15 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge,
And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
- 19:2 Also it is not good *for* a soul *to be* without knowledge,
And he sins who hastens with *his* feet.
- 20:15 There is gold and a multitude of rubies,
But the lips of knowledge *are* a precious jewel.
- 21:11 When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise;
But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.
- 23:12 Apply your heart to instruction,
And your ears to words of knowledge.
- 24:3 Through wisdom a house is built,
And by understanding it is established;
4 By knowledge the rooms are filled
With all precious and pleasant riches.

Giving and Receiving Wisdom

Advice and Rebuke

9:7-9 “He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself,
And he who rebukes a wicked *man only* harms himself.

8 Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you;

Rebuke a wise *man*, and he will love you.

9 Give *instruction* to a wise *man*, and he will be still wiser;

Teach a just *man*, and he will increase in learning.

10:8 The wise in heart will receive commands,
But a prating fool will fall.

12:15 The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes,
But he who heeds counsel *is* wise.

13:1 A wise son *heeds* his father’s instruction,
But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

13:13 He who despises the word will be destroyed,
But he who fears the commandment will be rewarded.

15:31 The ear that hears the rebukes of life
Will abide among the wise.

17:10 Rebuke is more effective for a wise *man*
Than a hundred blows on a fool.

19:20 Listen to counsel and receive instruction,
That you may be wise in your latter days.

19:25 Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary;
Rebuke one who has understanding, *and* he will discern knowledge.

19:27 Cease listening to instruction, my son,
And you will stray from the words of knowledge.

23:9 Do not speak in the hearing of a fool,
For he will despise the wisdom of your words.

25:12 *Like* an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold
Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

27:5-6 ⁵ Open rebuke *is* better
Than love carefully concealed.

⁶ Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend,
But the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

27:17 *As* iron sharpens iron,
So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

29:1 He who is often rebuked, *and* hardens *his* neck,
Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Value of Advisors

11:14 Where *there is* no counsel, the people fall;
But in the multitude of counselors *there is* safety.

15:22 Without counsel, plans go awry,
But in the multitude of counselors they are established.

20:18 Plans are established by counsel;
By wise counsel wage war.

24:5-6 A wise man *is* strong,
Yes, a man of knowledge increases strength;
6 For by wise counsel you will wage your own war,
And in a multitude of counselors *there is* safety.

Discipline

10:17 He who keeps instruction *is in* the way of life,
But he who refuses correction goes astray.

12:1 Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge,
But he who hates correction *is* stupid.

13:18 Poverty and shame *will come* to him who disdains correction,
But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.

13:24 He who spares his rod hates his son,
But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.

15:5 A fool despises his father's instruction,
But he who receives correction is prudent.

15:10 Harsh discipline *is* for him who forsakes the way,
And he who hates correction will die.

15:12 A scoffer does not love one who corrects him,
Nor will he go to the wise.

15:32 He who disdains instruction despises his own soul,
But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.

19:18 Chasten your son while there is hope,
And do not set your heart on his destruction.

20:30 Blows that hurt cleanse away evil,
As *do* stripes the inner depths of the heart.

22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go,

And when he is old he will not depart from it.

22:15 Foolishness *is* bound up in the heart of a child;
The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

23:13-14 Do not withhold correction from a child,
For *if* you beat him with a rod, he will not die.
¹⁴ You shall beat him with a rod,
And deliver his soul from hell.

29:15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom,
But a child left *to himself* brings shame to his mother.

29:17 Correct your son, and he will give you rest;
Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

29:19 A servant will not be corrected by mere words;
For though he understands, he will not respond.

29:21 He who pampers his servant from childhood
Will have him as a son in the end.

Lawkeeping

19:16 He who keeps the commandment keeps his soul,
But he who is careless of his ways will die.

28:4 Those who forsake the law praise the wicked,
But such as keep the law contend with them.

28:7 Whoever keeps the law *is* a discerning son,
But a companion of gluttons shames his father.

28:9 One who turns away his ear from hearing the law,
Even his prayer *is* an abomination.

29:18 Where *there is* no revelation, the people cast off restraint;
But happy *is* he who keeps the law.

Repentance

14:9 Fools mock at sin,
But among the upright *there is* favor.

28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper,
But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.

Righteousness & Wickedness

10:6-7 Blessings *are* on the head of the righteous,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
7 The memory of the righteous *is* blessed,
But the name of the wicked will rot.

10:16 The labor of the righteous *leads* to life,
The wages of the wicked to sin.

10:28-30 The hope of the righteous *will be* gladness,
But the expectation of the wicked will perish.
29 The way of the LORD *is* strength for the upright,
But destruction *will come* to the workers of iniquity.
30 The righteous will never be removed,
But the wicked will not inhabit the earth.

11:5-10 The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright,
But the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.
6 The righteousness of the upright will deliver them,
But the unfaithful will be caught by *their* lust.
7 When a wicked man dies, *his* expectation will perish,
And the hope of the unjust perishes.
8 The righteous is delivered from trouble,
And it comes to the wicked instead.
9 The hypocrite with *his* mouth destroys his neighbor,
But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.
10 When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices;
And when the wicked perish, *there is* jubilation.

11:18-20 The wicked *man* does deceptive work,
But he who sows righteousness *will have* a sure reward.
19 As righteousness *leads* to life,
So he who pursues evil *pursues it* to his own death.
20 Those who are of a perverse heart *are* an abomination to the LORD,
But *the* blameless in their ways *are* His delight.

11:23 The desire of the righteous *is* only good,
But the expectation of the wicked *is* wrath.

12:2-3 A good *man* obtains favor from the LORD,
But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.
3 A man is not established by wickedness,
But the root of the righteous cannot be moved.

12:5-8 The thoughts of the righteous *are* right,
But the counsels of the wicked *are* deceitful.
6 The words of the wicked *are*, "Lie in wait for blood,"
But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.
7 The wicked are overthrown and *are* no more,
But the house of the righteous will stand.

⁸ A man will be commended according to his wisdom,
But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.

12:12 The wicked covet the catch of evil *men*,
But the root of the righteous yields *fruit*.

12:21 No grave trouble will overtake the righteous,
But the wicked shall be filled with evil.

12:28 In the way of righteousness *is* life,
And in *its* pathway *there is* no death.

13:9 The light of the righteous rejoices,
But the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

13:21 Evil pursues sinners,
But to the righteous, good shall be repaid.

13:25 The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul,
But the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.

14:11 The house of the wicked will be overthrown,
But the tent of the upright will flourish.

14:19 The evil will bow before the good,
And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation,
But sin *is* a reproach to *any* people.

15:6 *In* the house of the righteous *there is* much treasure,
But in the revenue of the wicked is trouble.

15:9 The way of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD,
But He loves him who follows righteousness.

20:7 The righteous *man* walks in his integrity;
His children *are* blessed after him.

21:18 The wicked *shall be* a ransom for the righteous,
And the unfaithful for the upright.

24:15-16 Do not lie in wait, O wicked *man*, against the dwelling of the righteous;
Do not plunder his resting place;
¹⁶ For a righteous *man* may fall seven times
And rise again,
But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

28:12 When the righteous rejoice, *there is* great glory;
But when the wicked arise, men hide themselves.

28:28 When the wicked arise, men hide themselves;
But when they perish, the righteous increase.

29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice;
But when a wicked *man* rules, the people groan.

29:16 When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases;
But the righteous will see their fall.

29:27 An unjust man *is* an abomination to the righteous,
And *he who is* upright in the way *is* an abomination to the wicked.

Integrity & Perversion

10:9 He who walks with integrity walks securely,
But he who perverts his ways will become known.

13:6 Righteousness guards *him whose* way is blameless,
But wickedness overthrows the sinner.

15:26 The thoughts of the wicked *are* an abomination to the LORD,
But *the words* of the pure *are* pleasant.

21:8 The way of a guilty man *is* perverse;
But *as for* the pure, his work *is* right.

24:8-9 He who plots to do evil
Will be called a schemer.
9 The devising of foolishness *is* sin,
And the scoffer *is* an abomination to men.

28:18 Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved,
But *he who is* perverse *in his* ways will suddenly fall.

29:10 The bloodthirsty hate the blameless,
But the upright seek his well-being.

Consequences

10:3 The LORD will not allow the righteous soul to famish,
But He casts away the desire of the wicked.

10:22 The blessing of the LORD makes *one* rich,
And He adds no sorrow with it.

10:24-25 The fear of the wicked will come upon him,
And the desire of the righteous will be granted.
25 When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked *is* no *more*,
But the righteous *has* an everlasting foundation.

11:21 *Though they join* forces, the wicked will not go unpunished;
But the posterity of the righteous will be delivered.

11:27 He who earnestly seeks good finds favor,
But trouble will come to him who seeks *evil*.

11:30-31 The fruit of the righteous *is a* tree of life,
And he who wins souls *is* wise.
31 If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth,
How much more the ungodly and the sinner.

14:14 The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways,
But a good man *will be satisfied* from above.

14:22 Do they not go astray who devise evil?
But mercy and truth *belong* to those who devise good.

16:7 When a man's ways please the LORD,
He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

17:13 Whoever rewards evil for good,
Evil will not depart from his house.

18:3 When the wicked comes, contempt comes also;
And with dishonor *comes* reproach.

19:29 Judgments are prepared for scoffers,
And beatings for the backs of fools.

21:12 The righteous *God* wisely considers the house of the wicked,
Overthrowing the wicked for *their* wickedness.

21:16 A man who wanders from the way of understanding
Will rest in the assembly of the dead.

21:21 He who follows righteousness and mercy
Finds life, righteousness and honor.

22:8 He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow,
And the rod of his anger will fail.

26:1 As snow in summer and rain in harvest,
So honor is not fitting for a fool.

26:3 A whip for the horse,
A bridle for the donkey,
And a rod for the fool's back.

26:27 Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.

Motives

Motives and the heart

15:11 Hell and Destruction *are* before the LORD;
So how much more the hearts of the sons of men.

16:2 All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes,
But the LORD weighs the spirits.

17:3 The refining pot *is* for silver and the furnace for gold,
But the LORD tests the hearts.

20:11 Even a child is known by his deeds,
Whether what he does *is* pure and right.

20:27 The spirit of a man *is* the lamp of the LORD,
Searching all the inner depths of his heart.

21:2 Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes,
But the LORD weighs the hearts.

27:19 As in water face *reflects* face,
So a man's heart *reveals* the man.

False Worship

15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD,
But the prayer of the upright *is* His delight.

15:29 The LORD *is* far from the wicked,
But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

21:3 To do righteousness and justice
Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

21:27 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination;
How much more *when* he brings it with wicked intent!

Duplicity

10:10-11 He who winks with the eye causes trouble,
But a prating fool will fall.
¹¹ The mouth of the righteous *is* a well of life,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

11:3 The integrity of the upright will guide them,
But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.

16:30 He winks his eye to devise perverse things;
He purses his lips *and* brings about evil.

20:14 "*It is good for nothing,*" cries the buyer;
But when he has gone his way, then he boasts.

23:6-8 Do not eat the bread of a miser,
Nor desire his delicacies;
7 For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he.
“Eat and drink!” he says to you,
But his heart is not with you.
8 The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up,
And waste your pleasant words.

26:23-26 Fervent lips with a wicked heart
Are like earthenware covered with silver dross.
24 He who hates, disguises *it* with his lips,
And lays up deceit within himself;
25 When he speaks kindly, do not believe him,
For *there are* seven abominations in his heart;
26 *Though his* hatred is covered by deceit,
His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly.

Concern for Others

Love and Faithfulness

16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And by the fear of the LORD *one* departs from evil.

20:6 Most men will proclaim each his own goodness,
But who can find a faithful man?

25:19 Confidence in an unfaithful *man* in time of trouble
Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.

Love, hatred, and compassion

10:12 Hatred stirs up strife,
But love covers all sins.

15:17 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge,
But the heart of the fool *does not do* so.

17:5 He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker;
He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

24:17-18 Do not rejoice when your enemy falls,
And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;
18 Lest the LORD see *it*, and it displease Him,
And He turn away His wrath from him.

25:21-22 If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat;
And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;
22 For *so* you will heap coals of fire on his head,
And the LORD will reward you.

Kindness and mercy

11:16-17 A gracious woman retains honor,
But ruthless *men* retain riches.
17 The merciful man does good for his own soul,
But *he who is* cruel troubles his own flesh.

12:10 A righteous *man* regards the life of his animal,
But the tender mercies of the wicked *are* cruel.

12:25 Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression,
But a good word makes it glad.

21:10 The soul of the wicked desires evil;
His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.

Overstaying welcome

25:16-17 Have you found honey?
Eat only as much as you need,
Lest you be filled with it and vomit.
17 Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house,
Lest he become weary of you and hate you.

Concern for Self**Pride and humility**

11:2 When pride comes, then comes shame;
But with the humble *is* wisdom.

12:9 Better *is the one* who is slighted but has a servant,
Than he who honors himself but lacks bread.

13:7 There is one who makes himself rich, yet *has* nothing;
And one who makes himself poor, yet *has* great riches.

13:10 By pride comes nothing but strife,
But with the well-advised *is* wisdom.

15:25 The LORD will destroy the house of the proud,
But He will establish the boundary of the widow.

16:5 Everyone proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD;
Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

16:18-19 Pride *goes* before destruction,
And a haughty spirit before a fall.
19 Better *to be* of a humble spirit with the lowly,
Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

18:12 Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty,
And before honor *is* humility.

19:10 Luxury is not fitting for a fool,
Much less for a servant to rule over princes.

20:9 Who can say, “I have made my heart clean,
I am pure from my sin”?

21:4 A haughty look, a proud heart,
And the plowing of the wicked *are* sin.

21:24 A proud *and* haughty *man*—“Scoffer” *is* his name;
He acts with arrogant pride.

22:4 By humility *and* the fear of the LORD
Are riches and honor and life.

25:27 *It is* not good to eat much honey;
So to seek one’s own glory *is not* glory.

26:16 The lazy *man is* wiser in his own eyes
Than seven men who can answer sensibly.

27:2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth;
A stranger, and not your own lips.

27:21 The refining pot *is* for silver and the furnace for gold,
And a man *is valued* by what others say of him.

29:23 A man’s pride will bring him low,
But the humble in spirit will retain honor.

Selfishness

18:1 A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire;
He rages against all wise judgment.

Jealousy

27:4 Wrath *is* cruel and anger a torrent,
But who *is* able to stand before jealousy?

Envy

14:30 A sound heart *is* life to the body,
But envy *is* rottenness to the bones.

24:19-20 Do not fret because of evildoers,
Nor be envious of the wicked;
²⁰ For there will be no prospect for the evil *man*;
The lamp of the wicked will be put out.

Greed

28:25 He who is of a proud heart (NIV=greedy) stirs up strife,

But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered

Control of Self

Self-control

25:28 Whoever *has* no rule over his own spirit
Is like a city broken down, without walls.

29:11 A fool vents all his feelings,
But a wise *man* holds them back.

Rashness

20:25 *It is* a snare for a man to devote rashly *something as* holy,
And afterward to reconsider *his* vows.

21:5 The plans of the diligent *lead* surely to plenty,
But *those of* everyone *who is* hasty, surely to poverty.

25:8 Do not go hastily to court;
For what will you do in the end,
When your neighbor has put you to shame?

29:20 Do you see a man hasty in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.

Temper and Patience

12:16 A fool's wrath is known at once,
But a prudent *man* covers shame.

14:16-17 A wise *man* fears and departs from evil,
But a fool rages and is self-confident.
¹⁷ A quick-tempered *man* acts foolishly,
And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

14:29 *He who is* slow to wrath has great understanding,
But *he who is* impulsive exalts folly.

15:18 A wrathful man stirs up strife,
But *he who is* slow to anger allays contention.

16:32 *He who is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty,
And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

19:11 The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger,
And his glory *is* to overlook a transgression.

19:19 *A man of* great wrath will suffer punishment;
For if you rescue *him*, you will have to do it again.

22:24-25 Make no friendship with an angry man,
And with a furious man do not go,

²⁵ Lest you learn his ways
And set a snare for your soul.

29:8 Scoffers set a city aflame,
But wise *men* turn away wrath.

29:22 An angry man stirs up strife,
And a furious man abounds in transgression.

Drunkenness and Gluttony

20:1 Wine *is* a mocker,
Strong drink *is* a brawler,
And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

23:19-21 Hear, my son, and be wise;
And guide your heart in the way.
²⁰ Do not mix with winebibbers,
Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;
²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty,
And drowsiness will clothe *a man* with rags.

23:29-35 Who has woe?
Who has sorrow?
Who has contentions?
Who has complaints?
Who has wounds without cause?
Who has redness of eyes?
³⁰ Those who linger long at the wine,
Those who go in search of mixed wine.
³¹ Do not look on the wine when it is red,
When it sparkles in the cup,
When it swirls around smoothly;
³² At the last it bites like a serpent,
And stings like a viper.
³³ Your eyes will see strange things,
And your heart will utter perverse things.
³⁴ Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea,
Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, *saying*:
³⁵ “They have struck me, *but* I was not hurt;
They have beaten me, but I did not feel *it*.
When shall I awake, that I may seek another *drink*?”

Adultery

22:14 The mouth of an immoral woman *is* a deep pit;
He who is abhorred by the LORD will fall there.

Prostitution

23:26-28 My son, give me your heart,
And let your eyes observe my ways.

²⁷ For a harlot *is* a deep pit,
And a seductress *is* a narrow well.

²⁸ She also lies in wait as *for* a victim,
And increases the unfaithful among men.

29:3 Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice,
But a companion of harlots wastes *his* wealth.

Control of the Tongue

Wise and foolish talk

14:3 In the mouth of a fool *is* a rod of pride,
But the lips of the wise will preserve them.

15:2 The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly,
But the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness.

15:7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge,
But the heart of the fool *does* not *do* so.

16:23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth,
And adds learning to his lips.

18:6-7 A fool's lips enter into contention,
And his mouth calls for blows.
⁷ A fool's mouth *is* his destruction,
And his lips *are* the snare of his soul.

19:1 Better *is* the poor who walks in his integrity
Than *one who is* perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

23:15-16 My son, if your heart is wise,
My heart will rejoice—indeed, I myself;
¹⁶ Yes, my inmost being will rejoice
When your lips speak right things.

Righteous and wicked talk

10:20-21 The tongue of the righteous *is* choice silver;
The heart of the wicked *is* *worth* little.
²¹ The lips of the righteous feed many,
But fools die for lack of wisdom.

10:31-32 The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom,
But the perverse tongue will be cut out.
³² The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable,
But the mouth of the wicked *what is* perverse.

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

12:13-14 The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of *his* lips,
But the righteous will come through trouble.

14

A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of *his* mouth,
And the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.

13:2 A man shall eat well by the fruit of *his* mouth,
But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.

15:28 The heart of the righteous studies how to answer,
But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.

17:4 An evildoer gives heed to false lips;
A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue.

Appropriate Speech

15:23 A man has joy by the answer of his mouth,
And a word *spoken* in due season, how good *it is!*

16:21 The wise in heart will be called prudent,
And sweetness of the lips increases learning.

16:24 Pleasant words *are like* a honeycomb,
Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

25:11 A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold
In settings of silver.

27:14 He who blesses his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning,
It will be counted a curse to him.

Maintaining Silence

10:19 In the multitude of words sin is not lacking,
But he who restrains his lips *is* wise.

12:23 A prudent man conceals knowledge,
But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

13:3 He who guards his mouth preserves his life,
But he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

17:28 Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace;
When he shuts his lips, *he is considered* perceptive.

18:13 He who answers a matter before he hears *it*,
It *is* folly and shame to him.

21:23 Whoever guards his mouth and tongue
Keeps his soul from troubles.

Controlled Speech

15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath,
But a harsh word stirs up anger.

17:27 He who has knowledge spares his words,
And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

25:15 By long forbearance a ruler is persuaded,
And a gentle tongue breaks a bone.

Flattery

26:28 A lying tongue hates *those who are* crushed by it,
And a flattering mouth works ruin.

28:23 He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward
Than he who flatters with the tongue.

29:5 A man who flatters his neighbor
Spreads a net for his feet.

Slander and Gossip

10:18 Whoever hides hatred *has* lying lips,
And whoever spreads slander *is* a fool.

11:13 A talebearer reveals secrets,
But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.

16:28 A perverse man sows strife,
And a whisperer separates the best of friends.

17:9 He who covers a transgression seeks love,
But he who repeats a matter separates friends.

18:8 The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles,
And they go down into the inmost body.

20:19 He who goes about *as* a talebearer reveals secrets;
Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.

26:20 Where *there is* no wood, the fire goes out;
And where *there is* no talebearer, strife ceases.

Hurtful talk

11:12 He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor,
But a man of understanding holds his peace.

12:18 There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise *promotes* health.

15:4 A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life,
But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

16:27 An ungodly man digs up evil,
And *it is* on his lips like a burning fire.

25:23 The north wind brings forth rain,
And a backbiting tongue an angry countenance.

26:2 Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow,
So a curse without cause shall not alight.

Quarreling

17:14 The beginning of strife *is like* releasing water;
Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

17:19 He who loves transgression loves strife,
And he who exalts his gate seeks destruction.

20:3 *It is* honorable for a man to stop striving,
Since any fool can start a quarrel.

22:10 Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave;
Yes, strife and reproach will cease.

26:21 *As* charcoal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire,
So *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.

Lying

12:19 The truthful lip shall be established forever,
But a lying tongue *is* but for a moment.

12:22 Lying lips *are* an abomination to the LORD,
But those who deal truthfully *are* His delight.

17:20 He who has a deceitful heart finds no good,
And he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.

19:5 A false witness will not go unpunished,
And *he who* speaks lies will not escape.

19:22 What is desired in a man is kindness,
And a poor man is better than a liar.

21:6 Getting treasures by a lying tongue
Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death.

Power of the tongue

18:20-21 A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth,
From the produce of his lips he shall be filled.

²¹ Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.

Honesty

Truthfulness

12:20 Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil,
But counselors of peace have joy.

13:5 A righteous *man* hates lying,
But a wicked *man* is loathsome and comes to shame.

24:26 He who gives a right answer kisses the lips.

26:18-19 Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death,
¹⁹ *Is* the man *who* deceives his neighbor,
And says, "I was only joking!"

Accurate Weights

11:1 Dishonest scales *are* an abomination to the LORD,
But a just weight *is* His delight.

16:11 Honest weights and scales *are* the LORD's;
All the weights in the bag *are* His work.

20:10 Diverse weights *and* diverse measures,
They *are* both alike, an abomination to the LORD.

20:23 Diverse weights *are* an abomination to the LORD,
And dishonest scales *are* not good.

Boundary Stones

22:28 Do not remove the ancient landmark
Which your fathers have set.

23:10-11 Do not remove the ancient landmark,
Nor enter the fields of the fatherless;
¹¹ For their Redeemer *is* mighty;
He will plead their cause against you.

Wrongfully Attained Gains

10:2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing,
But righteousness delivers from death.

13:11 Wealth *gained* by dishonesty will be diminished,
But he who gathers by labor will increase.

20:17 Bread gained by deceit *is* sweet to a man,
But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

20:21 An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning
Will not be blessed at the end.

Bribery

15:27 He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house,
But he who hates bribes will live.

17:8 A present *is* a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor;
Wherever he turns, he prospers.

17:23 A wicked *man* accepts a bribe behind the back
To pervert the ways of justice.

21:14 A gift in secret pacifies anger,
And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.

Justice**False Witnesses**

12:17 He *who* speaks truth declares righteousness,
But a false witness, deceit.

14:5 A faithful witness does not lie,
But a false witness will utter lies.

14:25 A true witness delivers souls,
But a deceitful *witness* speaks lies.

19:9 A false witness will not go unpunished,
And *he who* speaks lies shall perish.

19:28 A disreputable witness scorns justice,
And the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.

21:28 A false witness shall perish,
But the man who hears *him* will speak endlessly.

25:18 A man who bears false witness against his neighbor
Is like a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow.

Open-mindedness

18:17 The first one to plead his cause seems right,
Until his neighbor comes and examines him

Judicial Justice

17:15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just,
Both of them alike *are* an abomination to the LORD.

17:26 Also, to punish the righteous *is* not good,
Nor to strike princes for *their* uprightness.

18:5 *It is not good to show partiality to the wicked,
Or to overthrow the righteous in judgment.*

18:17 The first *one* to plead his cause *seems* right,
Until his neighbor comes and examines him.

21:15 *It is* a joy for the just to do justice,
But destruction *will come* to the workers of iniquity.

24:11-12 Deliver *those who* are drawn toward death,
And hold back *those* stumbling to the slaughter.
12 If you say, "Surely we did not know this,"
Does not He who weighs the hearts consider *it*?
He who keeps your soul, does He *not* know *it*?
And will He *not* render to *each* man according to his deeds?

24:23-25 These *things* also *belong* to the wise:

It is not good to show partiality in judgment.
24 He who says to the wicked, "You *are* righteous,"
Him the people will curse;
Nations will abhor him.
25 But those who rebuke *the wicked* will have delight,
And a good blessing will come upon them.

28:5 Evil men do not understand justice,
But those who seek the LORD understand all.

29:26 Many seek the ruler's favor,
But justice for man *comes* from the LORD.

Economic Well Being

Wealth and poverty

10:15 The rich man's wealth *is* his strong city;
The destruction of the poor *is* their poverty.

11:4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath,
But righteousness delivers from death.

11:28 He who trusts in his riches will fall,
But the righteous will flourish like foliage.

13:8 The ransom of a man's life *is* his riches,
But the poor does not hear rebuke.

14:20 The poor *man* is hated even by his own neighbor,
But the rich *has* many friends.

15:16 Better *is* a little with the fear of the LORD,
Than great treasure with trouble.

17:16 Why *is there* in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom,
Since *he has* no heart *for it*?

18:11 The rich man's wealth *is* his strong city,
And like a high wall in his own esteem.

18:23 The poor *man* uses entreaties,
But the rich answers roughly.

19:4 Wealth makes many friends,
But the poor is separated from his friend.

19:6,7 Many entreat the favor of the nobility,
And every man *is* a friend to one who gives gifts.
7 All the brothers of the poor hate him;
How much more do his friends go far from him!
He may pursue *them with words, yet they abandon him.*

22:2 The rich and the poor have this in common,
The LORD *is* the maker of them all.

22:7 The rich rules over the poor,
And the borrower *is* servant to the lender.

23:4-5 Do not overwork to be rich;
Because of your own understanding, cease!
5 Will you set your eyes on that which is not?
For *riches* certainly make themselves wings;
They fly away like an eagle *toward* heaven.

27:7 A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb,
But to a hungry soul every bitter thing *is* sweet.

28:6 Better *is* the poor who walks in his integrity
Than one perverse *in his* ways, though he *be* rich.

28:8 One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion
Gathers it for him who will pity the poor.

28:11 The rich man *is* wise in his own eyes,
But the poor who has understanding searches him out.

28:20-22 A faithful man will abound with blessings,
But he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.
21 To show partiality *is* not good,
Because for a piece of bread a man will transgress.
22 A man with an evil eye hastens after riches,
And does not consider that poverty will come upon him.

Benevolence and generosity

11:24-26 There is *one* who scatters, yet increases more;
And there is *one* who withholds more than is right,
But it *leads* to poverty.
25 The generous soul will be made rich,
And he who waters will also be watered himself.
26 The people will curse him who withholds grain,
But blessing *will be* on the head of him who sells *it*.

13:22 A good *man* leaves an inheritance to his children's children,
But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

14:21 He who despises his neighbor sins;
But he who has mercy on the poor, happy *is* he.

18:16 A man's gift makes room for him,
And brings him before great men.

19:17 He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD,
And He will pay back what he has given.

21:13 Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor
Will also cry himself and not be heard.

22:9 He who has a generous eye will be blessed,
For he gives of his bread to the poor.

25:14 Whoever falsely boasts of giving
Is like clouds and wind without rain.

Oppression of the poor

13:23 Much food *is in* the fallow *ground* of the poor,
And for lack of justice there is waste.

14:31 He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker,
But he who honors Him has mercy on the needy.

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

16:8 Better *is* a little with righteousness,
Than vast revenues without justice.

22:16 He who oppresses the poor to increase his *riches*,
And he who gives to the rich, *will* surely *come* to poverty.

22:22-23 Do not rob the poor because he *is* poor,
Nor oppress the afflicted at the gate;
²³ For the LORD will plead their cause,
And plunder the soul of those who plunder them.

29:7 The righteous considers the cause of the poor,
But the wicked does not understand *such* knowledge.

29:13 The poor *man* and the oppressor have this in common:
The LORD gives light to the eyes of both.

Industriousness

10:4-5 He who has a slack hand becomes poor,
But the hand of the diligent makes rich.
⁵ He who gathers in summer *is* a wise son;
He who sleeps in harvest *is* a son who causes shame.

10:26 As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes,
So *is* the lazy *man* to those who send him.

12:11 He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread,
But he who follows frivolity *is* devoid of understanding.

12:24 The hand of the diligent will rule,
But the lazy *man* will be put to forced labor.

12:27 The lazy *man* does not roast what he took in hunting,
But diligence *is* man's precious possession.

13:4 The soul of a lazy *man* desires, and *has* nothing;
But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.

14:4 Where no oxen *are*, the trough *is* clean;
But much increase *comes* by the strength of an ox.

14:23 In all labor there is profit,
But idle chatter *leads* only to poverty.

15:19 The way of the lazy *man is* like a hedge of thorns,
But the way of the upright *is* a highway.

16:26 The person who labors, labors for himself,
For his *hungry* mouth drives him *on*.

18:9 He who is slothful in his work
Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

19:15 Laziness casts *one* into a deep sleep,
And an idle person will suffer hunger.

19:24 A lazy *man* buries his hand in the bowl,
And will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

20:4 The lazy *man* will not plow because of winter;
He will beg during harvest and *have* nothing.

20:13 Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty;
Open your eyes, *and* you will be satisfied with bread.

21:17 He who loves pleasure *will be* a poor man;
He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

21:25-26 The desire of the lazy *man* kills him,
For his hands refuse to labor.
²⁶ He covets greedily all day long,
But the righteous gives and does not spare.

22:29 He who has a generous eye will be blessed,
For he gives of his bread to the poor.

24:27 Prepare your outside work,
Make it fit for yourself in the field;
And afterward build your house.

24:30-34 I went by the field of the lazy *man*,
And by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding;
³¹ And there it was, all overgrown with thorns;
Its surface was covered with nettles;
Its stone wall was broken down.
³² When I saw *it*, I considered *it* well;
I looked on *it and* received instruction:

33 A little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to rest;

34 So shall your poverty come *like* a prowler,
And your need like an armed man.

26:14 *As* a door turns on its hinges,
So *does* the lazy *man* on his bed.

27:18 Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit;
So he who waits on his master will be honored.

27:23-27 Be diligent to know the state of your flocks,
And attend to your herds;

24 For riches *are* not forever,
Nor does a crown *endure* to all generations.

25 *When* the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself,
And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in,

26 The lambs *will provide* your clothing,

And the goats the price of a field;

27 *You shall have* enough goats' milk for your food,
For the food of your household,

And the nourishment of your maidservants.

28:19 He who tills his land will have plenty of bread,
But he who follows frivolity will have poverty enough!

Conservation

21:20 *There is* desirable treasure,
And oil in the dwelling of the wise,
But a foolish man squanders it.

Surety for another

11:15 He who is surety for a stranger will suffer,
But one who hates being surety is secure.

17:18 A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge,
And becomes surety for his friend.

20:16 Take the garment of one who is surety *for* a stranger,
And hold it as a pledge *when it* is for a seductress.

22:26-27 Do not be one of those who shakes hands in a pledge,
One of those who is surety for debts;

27 If you have nothing *with which* to pay,
Why should he take away your bed from under you?

Persons & Attributes

Parents and children

10:1 The Proverbs of Solomon:

A wise son makes a glad father,
But a foolish son *is* the grief of his mother.

11:29 He who troubles his own house will inherit the wind,
And the fool *will be* servant to the wise of heart.

15:20 A wise son makes a father glad,
But a foolish man despises his mother.

17:2 A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame,
And will share an inheritance among the brothers.

17:6 Children's children *are* the crown of old men,
And the glory of children *is* their father.

17:21 He who begets a scoffer *does so* to his sorrow,
And the father of a fool has no joy.

17:25 A foolish son *is* a grief to his father,
And bitterness to her who bore him.

19:26 He who mistreats *his* father *and* chases away *his* mother
Is a son who causes shame and brings reproach.

20:20 Whoever curses his father or his mother,
His lamp will be put out in deep darkness.

23:22-25 Listen to your father who begot you,
And do not despise your mother when she is old.
23 Buy the truth, and do not sell *it*,
Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.
24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice,
And he who begets a wise *child* will delight in him.
25 Let your father and your mother be glad,
And let her who bore you rejoice.

The Elderly

16:31 The silver-haired head *is* a crown of glory,
If it is found in the way of righteousness.

20:29 The glory of young men *is* their strength,
And the splendor of old men *is* their gray head.

Women and wives

11:22 *As* a ring of gold in a swine's snout,
So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.

12:4 An excellent wife *is* the crown of her husband,
But she who causes shame *is* like rottenness in his bones.

14:1 The wise woman builds her house,
But the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

18:22 *He who* finds a wife finds a good *thing*,
And obtains favor from the LORD.

19:13-14 A foolish son *is* the ruin of his father,
And the contentions of a wife *are* a continual dripping.
14 Houses and riches *are* an inheritance from fathers,
But a prudent wife *is* from the LORD.

21:9 Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop,
Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

21:19 Better to dwell in the wilderness,
Than with a contentious and angry woman.

27:15-16 A continual dripping on a very rainy day
And a contentious woman are alike;
16 Whoever restrains her restrains the wind,
And grasps oil with his right hand.

Kings and rulers

14:28 In a multitude of people *is* a king's honor,
But in the lack of people *is* the downfall of a prince.

14:35 The king's favor *is* toward a wise servant,
But his wrath *is against* him who causes shame.

16:10 Divination *is* on the lips of the king;
His mouth must not transgress in judgment.

16:12-15 *It is* an abomination for kings to commit wickedness,
For a throne is established by righteousness.
13 Righteous lips *are* the delight of kings,
And they love him who speaks *what is* right.
14 As messengers of death *is* the king's wrath,
But a wise man will appease it.
15 In the light of the king's face *is* life,
And his favor *is* like a cloud of the latter rain.

17:7 Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool,
Much less lying lips to a prince.

19:12 The king's wrath *is* like the roaring of a lion,
But his favor *is* like dew on the grass.

20:2 The wrath of a king *is* like the roaring of a lion;
Whoever provokes him to anger sins *against* his own life.

20:8 A king who sits on the throne of judgment
Scatters all evil with his eyes.

20:26 A wise king sifts out the wicked,
And brings the threshing wheel over them.

20:28 Mercy and truth preserve the king,
And by lovingkindness he upholds his throne.

21:1 The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD,
Like the rivers of water;
He turns it wherever He wishes.

22:11 He who loves purity of heart
And has grace on his lips,
The king *will be* his friend.

23:1-3 When you sit down to eat with a ruler,
Consider carefully what *is* before you;
² And put a knife to your throat
If you *are* a man given to appetite.
³ Do not desire his delicacies,
For they *are* deceptive food.

24:21-22 My son, fear the LORD and the king;
Do not associate with those given to change;
²² For their calamity will rise suddenly,
And who knows the ruin those two can bring?

25:2-7 *It is* the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings *is* to search out a matter.
³ *As* the heavens for height and the earth for depth,
So the heart of kings *is* unsearchable.
⁴ Take away the dross from silver,
And it will go to the silversmith *for* jewelry.
⁵ Take away the wicked from before the king,
And his throne will be established in righteousness.
⁶ Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king,
And do not stand in the place of the great;
⁷ For *it is* better that he say to you,
"Come up here,"
Than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince,
Whom your eyes have seen.

28:2 Because of the transgression of a land, many *are* its princes;
But by a man of understanding *and* knowledge Right will be prolonged.

28:15-16 *Like* a roaring lion and a charging bear
Is a wicked ruler over poor people.

¹⁶ A ruler who lacks understanding *is* a great oppressor,
But he who hates covetousness will prolong *his* days.

29:4 The king establishes the land by justice,
But he who receives bribes overthrows it.

29:12 If a ruler pays attention to lies,
All his servants *become* wicked.

29:14 The king who judges the poor with truth,
His throne will be established forever.

Messengers

13:17 A wicked messenger falls into trouble,
But a faithful ambassador *brings* health.

17:11 An evil *man* seeks only rebellion;
Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

25:13 Like the cold of snow in time of harvest
Is a faithful messenger to those who send him,
For he refreshes the soul of his masters.

Companions

12:26 The righteous should choose his friends carefully,
For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

13:20 He who walks with wise *men* will be wise,
But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

14:7 Go from the presence of a foolish man,
When you do not perceive *in him* the lips of knowledge.

17:17 A quick-tempered *man* acts foolishly,
And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

18:24 A man *who has* friends must himself be friendly,
But there is a friend *who* sticks closer than a brother.

24:1-2 Do not be envious of evil men,
Nor desire to be with them;
² For their heart devises violence,
And their lips talk of troublemaking.

27:8-10 Like a bird that wanders from its nest
Is a man who wanders from his place.
⁹ Ointment and perfume delight the heart,

And the sweetness of a man's friend *gives delight* by hearty counsel.

¹⁰ Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend,

Nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity;

Better *is* a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.

29:24 Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his own life;
He swears to tell the truth, but reveals nothing.

Various Observations

Caution

22:3 A prudent *man* foresees evil and hides himself,
But the simple pass on and are punished.

22:5 Thorns *and* snares *are* in the way of the perverse;
He who guards his soul will be far from them.

Reputation

22:1 A *good* name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
Loving favor rather than silver and gold.

25:9,10 Debate your case with your neighbor,
And do not disclose the secret to another;
¹⁰ Lest he who hears *it* expose your shame,
And your reputation be ruined.

Courage

14:32 The wicked is banished in his wickedness,
But the righteous has a refuge in his death.

22:13 The lazy *man* says, “*There is* a lion outside!
I shall be slain in the streets!”

24:10 *If* you faint in the day of adversity,
Your strength *is* small.

26:13 The lazy *man* says, “*There is* a lion in the road!
A fierce lion *is* in the streets!”

28:1 The wicked flee when no one pursues,
But the righteous are bold as a lion.

Hope

13:12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
But *when* the desire comes, *it is* a tree of life.

13:19 A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul,
But *it is* an abomination to fools to depart from evil.

23:17,18 Do not let your heart envy sinners,
But *be zealous* for the fear of the LORD all the day;
¹⁸ For surely there is a hereafter,
And your hope will not be cut off.

Joy and grief

14:10 The heart knows its own bitterness,
And a stranger does not share its joy.

14:13 Even in laughter the heart may sorrow,
And the end of mirth *may be* grief.

15:13 A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance,
But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

17:22 A merry heart does good, *like* medicine,
But a broken spirit dries the bones.

18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness,
But who can bear a broken spirit?

25:20 *Like* one who takes away a garment in cold weather,
And like vinegar on soda,
Is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

27:11 My son, be wise, and make my heart glad,
That I may answer him who reproaches me.

29:6 By transgression an evil man is snared,
But the righteous sings and rejoices.

Good News

15:30 The light of the eyes rejoices the heart,
And a good report makes the bones healthy.

25:25 *As* cold water to a weary soul,
So *is* good news from a far country.

Curiosity

27:20 Hell and Destruction are never full;
So the eyes of man are never satisfied.