

## PROVERBS 18

- 1 Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddeth with all wisdom.
- 2 A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself.
- 3 When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach.
- 4 The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.
- 5 It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.
- 6 A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes.
- 7 A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.
- 8 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.
- 9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.
- 10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.
- 11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.
- 12 Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.
- 13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame to him.
- 14 The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?
- 15 The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.
- 16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.
- 17 He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.
- 18 The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty.
- 19 A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.
- 20 A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.
- 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit of it.
- 22 Whoever findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour from the LORD.
- 23 The poor useth entreaties; but the rich answereth roughly.
- 24 A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

## PROVERBS 19

- 1 Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.
- 2 Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth.

3The foolishness of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretteth against the LORD.

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

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

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

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

8He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.

17He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth to the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

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

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

20Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

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

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

23The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

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

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

26He that wasteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, is a son that causeth shame, and bringeth reproach.

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

28An ungodly witness scorneth judgment: and the mouth of the wicked devoureth iniquity.

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

## PROVERBS 20

- 1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whoever is deceived by it is not wise.
- 2 The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoever provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul.
- 3 It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.
- 4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.
- 5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.
- 6 Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?
- 7 The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.
- 8 A king that sitteth on the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.
- 9 Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?
- 10 Differing weights, and differing measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.
- 11 Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work is pure, and whether it is right.
- 12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.
- 13 Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thy eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.
- 14 It is nothing, it is nothing, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.
- 15 There is gold, and an abundance of rubies: but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.
- 16 Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for an adulteress.
- 17 Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.
- 18 Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.
- 19 He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.
- 20 Whoever curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.
- 21 An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end of it shall not be blessed.
- 22 Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.
- 23 Differing weights are an abomination to the LORD; and a false balance is not good.
- 24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?
- 25 It is a snare to the man who devoureth that which is holy, and after vows to make enquiry.
- 26 A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them.
- 27 The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.
- 28 Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upheld by mercy.

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

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

## **PROVERBS 21**

1The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it wherever he will.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10The soul of the wicked desireth evil: his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes.

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

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

13Whoever stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

14A gift in secret pacifieth anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath.

15It is joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

16The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

17He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.

18The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.

19It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.

20There is a treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

21He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

22A wise man scaleth the city of the mighty, and casteth down the strength of its confidence.

23Whoever keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

24Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

25The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

26He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.

27The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination: how much more, when he bringeth it with a wicked mind?

28A false witness shall perish: but the man that heareth speaketh constantly.

29A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way.

30There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.

31The horse is prepared for the day of battle: but safety is from the LORD.

## **PROVERBS 22**

1A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

2The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all.

3A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

4By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.

5Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.

6Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

7The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

8He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.

9He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

10Cast out the scorner, and contention shall end; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.

11He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.

12The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, and he overthroweth the words of the transgressor.

13The slothful man saith, There is a lion outside, I shall be slain in the streets.

14The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit: he that is abhorred by the LORD shall fall in it.

15Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

16He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.

17Bow down thy ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thy heart to my knowledge.

18For it is a pleasant thing if thou keepest them within thee; they shall all be ready on thy lips.

19That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee.

20Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge,

21That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send to thee?

22Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted in the gate:

23For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.

24Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:

25Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

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

27If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

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

29Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before obscure men.

### **PROVERBS 23**

1When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee:

2And put a knife to thy throat, if thou art a man given to appetite.

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

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

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

6Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his delicacies:

7For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

8The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.

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

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

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

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

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

14Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

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

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

17Let not thy heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.

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

19Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thy heart in the way.

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

21For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.  
22Hearken to thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.  
23Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.  
24The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.  
25Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bore thee shall rejoice.  
26My son, give me thy heart, and let thy eyes observe my ways.  
27For an harlot is a deep ditch; and an adulteress is a narrow pit.  
28She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men.  
29Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause?  
who hath redness of eyes?  
30They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.  
31Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.  
32At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.  
33Thy eyes shall behold strange things, and thy heart shall utter perverse things.  
34And thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.  
35They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I  
awake? I will seek it yet again.

#### **PROVERBS 24**

1Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them.  
2For their heart studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief.  
3Through wisdom is an house built; and by understanding it is established:  
4And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.  
5A wise man is strong; and a man of knowledge increaseth strength.  
6For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.  
7Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in the gate.  
8He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person.  
9The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.  
10If thou faintest in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.  
11If thou refrainest to deliver them that are drawn to death, and those that are ready to be slain;  
12If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that weigheth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy  
soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

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

14So shall the knowledge of wisdom be to thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

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

16For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

17Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thy heart be glad when he stumbleth:

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

19Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked;

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

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

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

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

24He that saith to the wicked, Thou art righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him:

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

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

27Prepare thy work outside, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thy house.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **PROVERBS 25**

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

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

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

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

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

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

7For better it is that it be said to thee, Come up here; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thy eyes have seen.

8Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in its end, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame.

9Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and reveal not a secret to another:

10Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thy infamy turn not away.

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

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

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

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

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

16Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled with it, and vomit it.

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

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

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

20As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon soda, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

21If thy enemy shall hunger, give him bread to eat; and if he shall thirst, give him water to drink:

22For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.

23The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

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

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

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

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

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

## **PROVERBS 26**

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

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

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

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

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

6He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh violence.

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

8As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool.

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

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

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

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

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

14As the door turneth upon its hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed.

15The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

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

17He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

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

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

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

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

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

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

24He that hateth disguiseth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;

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

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

27Whoever diggeth a pit shall fall into it: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.

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

## **PROVERBS 27**

1Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

2Let another man praise thee, and not thy own mouth; a stranger, and not thy own lips.

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

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

5Open rebuke is better than secret love.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16Whoever hideth her hideth the wind, and the ointment of his right hand, which betrayeth itself.

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

18He that keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit of it: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

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

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

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

22Though thou shouldest crush a fool in a mortar among grain with a pestle, yet his foolishness will not depart from him.

23Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds.

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

25The plant appeareth, and the tender grass showeth itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered.

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

27And thou shalt have goats' milk enough for thy food, for the food of thy household, and for maintenance for thy maidens.

## **PROVERBS 28**

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

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

3A poor man that oppreseth the poor is like a sweeping rain which leaveth no food.

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

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

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

7He who keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of gluttonous men shameth his father.

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

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

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

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

12When righteous men rejoice, there is great glory: but when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.

13He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but he who confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

14Happy is the man that feareth always: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.

15As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.

16The prince that lacketh understanding is also a great oppressor: but he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days.

17A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man sustain him.

18He who walketh uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.

19He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

20A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

21To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.

22He that hasteneth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

23He that rebuketh a man afterward shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

24He that robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, It is no transgression; the same is the companion of a destroyer.

25He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

26He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoever walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

27He that giveth to the poor shall not want: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

28When the wicked rise, men hide themselves: but when they perish, the righteous increase.

## PROVERBS 29

- 1 He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.
- 2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.
- 3 He that loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father: but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance.
- 4 The king by judgment establisheth the land: but he that exacteth gifts overthroweth it.
- 5 A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.
- 6 In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare: but the righteous doth sing and rejoice.
- 7 The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it.
- 8 Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath.
- 9 If a wise man contendeth with a foolish man, whether he rageth or laugheth, there is no rest.
- 10 The bloodthirsty hate the upright: but the just seek his soul.
- 11 A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards.
- 12 If a ruler hearkeneth to lies, all his servants are wicked.
- 13 The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the LORD giveth light to both their eyes.
- 14 The king that faithfully judgeth the poor, his throne shall be established for ever.
- 15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.
- 16 When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increaseth: but the righteous shall see their fall.
- 17 Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight to thy soul.
- 18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.
- 19 A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understandeth he will not answer.
- 20 Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.
- 21 He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him at length become his son.
- 22 An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.
- 23 A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.
- 24 Whoever is partner with a thief hateth his own soul: he heareth cursing, and revealeth it not.
- 25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but he who putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.
- 26 Many seek the ruler's favour; but every man's judgment cometh from the LORD.
- 27 An unjust man is an abomination to the just: and he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked.

## PROVERBS 30

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

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

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

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

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

6Add thou not to his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

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

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

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

10Accuse not a servant to his master, lest he curse thee, and thou be found guilty.

11There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.

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

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

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

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

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

17The eye that mocketh at its father, and despiseth to obey its mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

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

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

20Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.

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

22For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with food;

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

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

25The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their food in the summer;  
26The conies are but a feeble people, yet they make their houses in the rocks;  
27The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;  
28The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.  
29There are three things which go well, yea, four are stately in going:  
30A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;  
31A greyhound; a male goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up.  
32If thou hast done foolishly in lifting up thyself, or if thou hast thought evil, lay thy hand upon thy mouth.  
33Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood: so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife.

### **PROVERBS 31**

1The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him.  
2What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows?  
3Give not thy strength to women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.  
4It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:  
5Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.  
6Give strong drink to him that is ready to perish, and wine to those that are of heavy hearts.  
7Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.  
8Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.  
9Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.  
10Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.  
11The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.  
12She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.  
13She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.  
14She is like the merchant ships; she bringeth her food from afar.  
15She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth food to her household, and a portion to her maidens.  
16She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.  
17She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.  
18She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her lamp goeth not out by night.  
19She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

20She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

21She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

22She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

23Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

24She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth waistbands to the merchant.

25Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

26She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and on her tongue is the law of kindness.

27She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

28Her children rise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

29Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

30Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

31Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.