

Categorizing the Proverbs

By Lucas Doremus

I first became interested in reading the Proverbs after listening to a sixteen-part series a pastor preached; he broke the book down into different topics Proverbs speaks about and devoted a sermon to each. I was interested in this idea and decided to embark on my own categorization of the book of Proverbs.

What I quickly discovered is that the first nine chapters are discourses on different topics, mostly centered around the importance of wisdom. Chapter 10 begins the section of the book which most people are aware of: short one or two line comments of different topics. Chapters 30 and 31 contain two more discourses which completes the book.

Since the discourses deserve a different manor of study, I began taking chapters 10-29 and grouping the proverbs into subjects. I found that Solomon uses eight different styles of proverbs: contrast, parallel, command, statement, interrogative, cause and effect, comparison, and editorial. While some scholars group these differently, I found this organization the most helpful. The definitions of the different types are as follows:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Contrast | Two opposing statements with a central point |
| Parallel | Two statements without a direct contrast |
| Command | An action the reader is directed to take |
| Statement | A declaration of truth |
| Interrogative | Asks a question, with an implied answer or gives the answer |
| Cause & Effect | Something happens as a result of something happening first |
| Comparison | A trait or degree of trait that is shared between two things |
| Editorial | Comment from the author about the book |

Using these types, an outline surfaces in chapters 10-29. Different parts of the book contain a large number of certain types of proverbs with only a small number of the others, thus yielding the following form:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Section 10:1-16:33 | Contains mostly contrast proverbs |
| Section 17:1-22:16 | Contains mostly parallel proverbs |
| Section 22:17-24:34 | Contains mostly command proverbs |
| Section 25:1-27:27 | Contains mostly comparison proverbs |
| Section 28:1-29:27 | Contains mostly contrast |

Once we categorized the proverbs by type, we can then put the proverbs into categories of subject. By my count there are 539 proverbs with nineteen different subjects.

To get this total, I counted proverbs that cross multiple verses but contained one subject or continuous statement as 1, as the Bible was not written originally with verse numbers and using Stephanus' verse divisions would not be sufficient to count the number of proverbs in the book. I created categories that made the most sense to me, realizing there are other categories that are more or less specific than the ones I have chosen. There are also many proverbs that talk about more than one subject. I selected what I believe to be the main point of the proverb as the subject.

While I believe this is a good and helpful way to look at Solomon's writing, I am far from dogmatic about my classification of both types and subjects. You should embark on your own classification, because ultimately that will be the most helpful to you.

Also included after the list of proverbs in each category is a list of repeated proverbs. Some are repeated either word for word or with another statement that further explains an idea. I believe these proverbs hold a special significance because of this, much like Paul's repeated statement of a curse being upon anyone preaching an incorrect Gospel (Gal 1:8-9).

This booklet is meant to present Proverbs in such a way that you can reference a topic to get a picture of all God has to say about it in the book of Proverbs. You can also see which topics there is much to say about, indicating (but not determining) its importance in life and the need to have wisdom when approaching it. I often turn to this list for guidance in my life and I hope it helps you in yours as well. Cheers!

| Subject Matter | Type of Proverb | | | | | | | Total | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------------|------------|----------|------------|
| | Contrast | Parallel | Command | Statements | Interrogative | Cause and Effect | Comparison | | Editorial* |
| Speech | 37 | 19 | 1 | 17 | 2 | | 3 | | 79 |
| Wisdom/foolishness contrast | 55 | | 1 | 3 | | 1 | 5 | | 65 |
| Social Settings | 14 | 4 | 7 | 11 | | 3 | 8 | | 47 |
| Way of wisdom | | 4 | 23 | 11 | | 3 | 5 | | 46 |
| Money | 17 | 7 | 5 | 12 | | | 2 | | 43 |
| Way of foolishness | | 14 | | 11 | 2 | 2 | 14 | | 43 |
| Theology | 18 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | 41 |
| Work Ethic | 11 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 1 | | 3 | | 27 |
| Trust in God | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | | | | 23 |
| Ruler | 8 | 1 | | 7 | | 1 | 4 | | 21 |
| Correction | 9 | 2 | | 5 | | | 4 | | 20 |
| Counsel | 7 | 2 | | 3 | 1 | | 2 | | 15 |
| Family | 5 | 6 | | 2 | | | 2 | | 15 |
| Pride | 6 | 1 | | 4 | 2 | | 2 | | 15 |
| State of mind | 6 | 2 | | 2 | 1 | | 2 | | 13 |
| Child rearing | | 1 | 3 | 6 | | 2 | | | 12 |
| Women | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 4 | | 8 |
| Alcohol | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | 3 |
| Favoritism | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | 3 |
| Editorial | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 205 | 71 | 48 | 127 | 11 | 14 | 63 | 1 | 539 |

*There are three verses that contain editorial comments. Two of them contain another subject and have been classified in that way. They have still been listed in the Editorial verse list.

Alcohol

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

^{23:29-30} Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine.

^{23:31-35} Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly; At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things. 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: "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?"

Child Rearing

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

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

^{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.

^{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. You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell.

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

^{23:24} The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who begets a wise child will delight in him.

^{28:24} Whoever robs his father or his mother, And says, "It is no transgression," The same is companion to a destroyer.

^{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.

Correction

- ^{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.
- ^{13:1} A wise son heeds his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.
- ^{13:8} The ransom of a man's life is his riches, But the poor does not hear rebuke.
- ^{13:18} Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.
- ^{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.
- ^{15:31} The ear that hears the rebukes of life Will abide among the wise.
- ^{15:32} He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.
- ^{17:10} Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool.
- ^{19:25} Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary; Rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge.
- ^{20:30} Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.
- ^{25:12} Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.
- ^{26:3} A whip for the horse, A bridle for the donkey, And a rod for the fool's back.
- ^{27:5} Open rebuke is better Than love carefully concealed.
- ^{28:14} Happy is the man who is always reverent, But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.
- ^{28:23} He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward Than he who flatters with the tongue.
- ^{29:1} He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.
- ^{29:19} A servant will not be corrected by mere words; For though he understands, he will not respond.

Counsel

- ^{11:14} Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.
- ^{12:15} The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.
- ^{12:5} The thoughts of the righteous are right, But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.
- ^{12:20} Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy.
- ^{14:15} The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps.
- ^{15:22} Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are established.
- ^{18:1} A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.
- ^{18:15} The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
- ^{20:5} Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, But a man of understanding will draw it out.
- ^{20:18} Plans are established by counsel; By wise counsel wage war.
- ^{21:11} When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise; But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.
- ^{22:20-21} Have I not written to you excellent things Of counsels and knowledge, That I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, That you may answer words of truth To those who send to you?
- ^{24:5-6} A wise man is strong, Yes, a man of knowledge increases strength; For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, And in a multitude of counselors there is safety.
- ^{27:9} Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel.
- ^{27:17} As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Faith

- ^{10:27} The fear of the LORD prolongs days, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.
- ^{10:29} The way of the LORD is strength for the upright, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.
- ^{12:2} A good man obtains favor from the LORD, But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.
- ^{13:13} He who despises the word will be destroyed, But he who fears the commandment will be rewarded.
- ^{14:2} He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD, But he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.
- ^{14:14} The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, But a good man will be satisfied from above.
- ^{14:26} In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge.
- ^{14:27} 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.
- ^{16:3} Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established.
- ^{16:6} In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.
- ^{16:20} He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.
- ^{19:16} He who keeps the commandment keeps his soul, But he who is careless of his ways will die.
- ^{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.
- ^{20:6} Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?
- ^{22:4} By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life.
- ^{22:17} Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, And apply your heart to my knowledge;
- ^{22:18} For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; Let them all be fixed upon your lips,
- ^{22:19} So that your trust may be in the LORD; I have instructed you today, even you.
- ^{24:21} My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;
- ^{24:22} For their calamity will rise suddenly, And who knows the ruin those two can bring?
- ^{28:26} He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.
- ^{28:5} Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all.
- ^{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.
- ^{29:25} The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Family

^{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.

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

^{15:17} Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, Than a fatted calf with hatred.

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

^{17:1} Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.

^{17:17} A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

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

^{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.

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

^{19:13} A foolish son is the ruin of his father, And the contentions of a wife are a continual dripping.

^{24:3-4} Through wisdom a house is built, And by understanding it is established; By knowledge the rooms are filled With all precious and pleasant riches.

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

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

Favoritism

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

^{24:23} These things also belong to the wise: It is not good to show partiality in judgment.

^{28:21} To show partiality is not good, Because for a piece of bread a man will transgress.

Money

- ^{10:15} The rich man's wealth is his strong city; The destruction of the poor is their poverty.
- ^{11:1} Dishonest scales are an abomination to the LORD, But a just weight is His delight.
- ^{11:4} Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness delivers from death.
- ^{11:15} He who is surety for a stranger will suffer, But one who hates being surety is secure.
- ^{11:24} There is one who scatters, yet increases more; And there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty.
- ^{11:25} The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself.
- ^{11:26} The people will curse him who withholds grain, But blessing will be on the head of him who sells it.
- ^{11:28} He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage.
- ^{13:7} There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches.
- ^{13:11} Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, But he who gathers by labor will increase.
- ^{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.
- ^{14:4} Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; But much increase comes by the strength of an ox.
- ^{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.
- ^{15:27} He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.
- ^{16:11} Honest weights and scales are the LORD'S; All the weights in the bag are His work.
- ^{17:18} A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge, And becomes surety for his friend.
- ^{17:23} A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back To pervert the ways of justice.
- ^{18:11} The rich man's wealth is his strong city, And like a high wall in his own esteem.
- ^{18:16} A man's gift makes room for him, And brings him before great men.
- ^{19:4} Wealth makes many friends, But the poor is separated from his friend.
- ^{19:6} Many entreat the favor of the nobility, And every man is a friend to one who gives gifts.
- ^{19:10} Luxury is not fitting for a fool, Much less for a servant to rule over princes.
- ^{20:10} Diverse weights and diverse measures, They are both alike, an abomination to the LORD.
- ^{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.
- ^{20:21} An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning Will not be blessed at the end.
- ^{20:23} Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD, And dishonest scales are not good.
- ^{21:13} Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be heard.
- ^{21:14} A gift in secret pacifies anger, And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.
- ^{21:17} He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.
- ^{21:20} There is desirable treasure, And oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man squanders it.
- ^{22:7} The rich rules over the poor, And the borrower is servant to the lender.
- ^{22:9} He who has a generous eye will be blessed, For he gives of his bread to the poor.
- ^{22:16} He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches, And he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty.
- ^{22:26-27} Do not be one of those who shakes hands in a pledge, One of those who is surety for debts; If you have nothing with which to pay, Why should he take away your bed from under you?
- ^{23:4-5} Do not overwork to be rich; Because of your own understanding, cease! Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.
- ^{25:14} Whoever falsely boasts of giving Is like clouds and wind without rain.
- ^{27:13} Take the garment of him who is surety for a stranger, And hold it in pledge when he is surety for a seductress.
- ^{27:23-27} Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, And attend to your herds; For riches are not forever, Nor does a crown endure to all generations. When the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself, And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in, The lambs will provide your clothing, And the goats the price of a field; You shall have enough goats' milk for your food, For the food of your household, And the nourishment of your maidservants.
- ^{28:8} One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion Gathers it for him who will pity the poor.
- ^{28:20} A faithful man will abound with blessings, But he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.
- ^{28:22} A man with an evil eye hastens after riches, And does not consider that poverty will come upon him.
- ^{28:27} He who gives to the poor will not lack, But he who hides his eyes will have many curses.

Pride

- ^{10:8} The wise in heart will receive commands, But a prating fool will fall.
- ^{11:2} When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.
- ^{13:10} By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well-advised is wisdom.
- ^{14:6} A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it, But knowledge is easy to him who understands.
- ^{16:18} Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.
- ^{16:19} 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.
- ^{20:14} "It is good for nothing," cries the buyer; But when he has gone his way, then he boasts.
- ^{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.
- ^{25:27} It is not good to eat much honey; So to seek one's own glory is not glory.
- ^{26:12} Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.
- ^{27:4} Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent, But who is able to stand before jealousy?
- ^{28:25} He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered.
- ^{29:23} A man's pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor.

Ruler

- ^{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} It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, For a throne is established by righteousness.
- ^{16:14} As messengers of death is the king's wrath, But a wise man will appease it.
- ^{16:15} In the light of the king's face is life, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain.
- ^{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.
- ^{25:3} As the heavens for height and the earth for depth, So the heart of kings is unsearchable.
- ^{25:4-5} Take away the dross from silver, And it will go to the silversmith for jewelry. Take away the wicked from before the king, And his throne will be established in righteousness.
- ^{27:18} Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit; So he who waits on his master will be honored.
- ^{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} Like a roaring lion and a charging bear Is a wicked ruler over poor people.
- ^{28:16} A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor, But he who hates covetousness will prolong his days.
- ^{29:2} When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.
- ^{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.

Social Settings

- ^{10:7} The memory of the righteous is blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot.
^{10:10} He who winks with the eye causes trouble, But a prating fool will fall.
^{11:10} When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.
^{11:16} A gracious woman retains honor, But ruthless men retain riches.
^{12:26} The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.
^{13:16} Every prudent man acts with knowledge, But a fool lays open his folly.
^{14:21} He who despises his neighbor sins; But he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he.
^{14:31} He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, But he who honors Him has mercy on the needy.
^{14:34} Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.
^{14:9} Fools mock at sin, But among the upright there is favor.
^{15:18} A wrathful man stirs up strife, But he who is slow to anger allays contention.
^{17:14} The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.
^{18:17} The first one to plead his cause seems right, Until his neighbor comes and examines him.
^{18:18} Casting lots causes contentions to cease, And keeps the mighty apart.
^{18:19} A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, And contentions are like the bars of a castle.
^{18:24} A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
^{19:7} 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.
^{20:19} He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets; Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.
^{20:29} The glory of young men is their strength, And the splendor of old men is their gray head.
^{20:3} It is honorable for a man to stop striving, Since any fool can start a quarrel.
^{22:1} A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold.
^{22:8} He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow, And the rod of his anger will fail.
^{22:10} Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave; Yes, strife and reproach will cease.
^{22:24-25} Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul.
^{24:28-29} Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, For would you deceive with your lips? Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."
^{25:6-7} Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king, And do not stand in the place of the great; 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.
^{25:8-10} Do not go hastily to court; For what will you do in the end, When your neighbor has put you to shame? Debate your case with your neighbor, And do not disclose the secret to another; Lest he who hears it expose your shame, And your reputation be ruined.
^{25:17} Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house, Lest he become weary of you and hate you.
^{25:18} A man who bears false witness against his neighbor Is like a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow.
^{26:17} He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.
^{26:18-19} Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death, Is the man who deceives his neighbor, And says, "I was only joking!"
^{26:20} Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.
^{26:21} As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.
^{27:6} Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.
^{27:8} Like a bird that wanders from its nest Is a man who wanders from his place.
^{27:10} 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.
^{27:14} He who blesses his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, It will be counted a curse to him.
^{27:21} The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is valued by what others say of him.
^{28:3} A poor man who oppresses the poor Is like a driving rain which leaves no food.
^{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.
^{29:5} A man who flatters his neighbor Spreads a net for his feet.
^{29:7} The righteous considers the cause of the poor, But the wicked does not understand such knowledge.
^{29:8} Scoffers set a city aflame, But wise men turn away wrath.
^{29:9} If a wise man contends with a foolish man, Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace.
^{29:10} The bloodthirsty hate the blameless, But the upright seek his well-being.
^{29:21} He who pampers his servant from childhood Will have him as a son in the end.

Speech

- ^{10:6} Blessings are on the head of the righteous, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
^{10:11} The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
^{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.
^{10:14} Wise people store up knowledge, But the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.
^{10:18} Whoever hides hatred has lying lips, And whoever spreads slander is a fool.
^{10:19} In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.
^{10:20} The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; The heart of the wicked is worth little.
^{10:21} The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of wisdom.
^{10:31} The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, But the perverse tongue will be cut out.
^{10:32} The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, But the mouth of the wicked what is perverse.
^{11:9} The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.
^{11:11} By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, But it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.
^{11:12} He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor, But a man of understanding holds his peace.
^{11:13} A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.
^{12:6} The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for blood," But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.
^{12:13} The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will come through trouble.
^{12:14} 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.
^{12:17} He who speaks truth declares righteousness, But a false witness, deceit.
^{12:18} There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise promotes health.
^{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.
^{12:23} A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.
^{13:2} A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.
^{13:3} He who guards his mouth preserves his life, But he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.
^{13:5} A righteous man hates lying, But a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.
^{14:3} In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride, But the lips of the wise will preserve them.
^{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.
^{14:33} Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding, But what is in the heart of fools is made known.
^{15:1} A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.
^{15:2} The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, But the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness.
^{15:4} A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
^{15:7} The lips of the wise disperse knowledge, But the heart of the fool does not do so.
^{15:14} The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, But the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.
^{15:23} A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!
^{15:28} The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.
^{16:13} Righteous lips are the delight of kings, And they love him who speaks what is right.
^{16:21} The wise in heart will be called prudent, And sweetness of the lips increases learning.
^{16:23} The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips.
^{16:24} Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.
^{16:27} An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire.
^{16:28} A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.
^{16:29-30} A violent man entices his neighbor, And leads him in a way that is not good. He winks his eye to devise perverse things; He purses his lips and brings about evil.
^{17:4} An evildoer gives heed to false lips; A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue.
^{17:7} Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool, Much less lying lips to a prince.
^{17:9} He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.
^{17:20} He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, And he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.
^{17:27} He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.
^{17:28} Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.
^{18:2} A fool has no delight in understanding, But in expressing his own heart.
^{18:4} The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; The wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook.
^{18:6} A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calls for blows.
^{18:7} A fool's mouth is his destruction, And his lips are the snare of his soul.

Speech cont.

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

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

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

^{18:21} Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

^{18:23} The poor man uses entreaties, But the rich answers roughly.

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

^{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.

^{20:15} There is gold and a multitude of rubies, But the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

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

^{20:24} A man's steps are of the LORD; How then can a man understand his own way?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

^{26:22} The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.

^{26:23} Fervent lips with a wicked heart Are like earthenware covered with silver dross.

^{26:24-26} He who hates, disguises it with his lips, And lays up deceit within himself; When he speaks kindly, do not believe him, For there are seven abominations in his heart; Though his hatred is covered by deceit, His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly.

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

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

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

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

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

State of Mind

- ^{11:23} The desire of the righteous is only good, But the expectation of the wicked is wrath.
^{12:25} Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.
^{13:12} Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.
^{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.
^{17:8} A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor; Wherever he turns, he prospers.
^{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?
^{24:10} If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small.
^{25:28} Whoever has no rule over his own spirit Is like a city broken down, without walls.
^{27:7} A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, But to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.
^{27:19} As in water face reflects face, So a man's heart reveals the man.

Theology

^{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.

^{11:20} Those who are of a perverse heart are an abomination to the LORD, But the blameless in their ways are His delight.

^{14:12} There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

^{15:3} The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.

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

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

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

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

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

^{16:1} The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

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

^{16:4} The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

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

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

^{16:9} A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

^{16:25} There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

^{16:33} The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD.

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

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

^{18:10} The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

^{19:14} Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers, But a prudent wife is from the LORD.

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

^{19:21} There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD'S counsel--that will stand.

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

^{20:22} Do not say, "I will recompense evil"; Wait for the LORD, and He will save you.

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

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

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

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

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

^{21:30} There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the LORD.

^{21:31} 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.

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

^{24:12} 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?

^{25:2} It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

^{26:10} The great God who formed everything Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages.

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

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

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

Way of Foolishness

^{11:7} When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish, And the hope of the unjust perishes.
^{11:22} As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.
^{13:23} Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor, And for lack of justice there is waste.
^{14:17} A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, And a man of wicked intentions is hated.
^{14:19} The evil will bow before the good, And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.
^{17:5} He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker; He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.
^{17:11} An evil man seeks only rebellion; Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him.
^{17:12} Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, Rather than a fool in his folly
^{17:13} Whoever rewards evil for good, Evil will not depart from his house.
^{17:16} Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom, Since he has no heart for it?
^{17:19} He who loves transgression loves strife, And he who exalts his gate seeks destruction.
^{17:26} Also, to punish the righteous is not good, Nor to strike princes for their uprightness.
^{18:3} When the wicked comes, contempt comes also; And with dishonor comes reproach.
^{19:2} Also it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge, And he sins who hastens with his feet.
^{19:3} The foolishness of a man twists his way, And his heart frets against the LORD.
^{19:19} A man of great wrath will suffer punishment; For if you rescue him, you will have to do it again.
^{19:29} Judgments are prepared for scoffers, And beatings for the backs of fools.
^{20:9} Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"?
^{20:25} It is a snare for a man to devote rashly something as holy, And afterward to reconsider his vows.
^{21:7} The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.
^{21:10} The soul of the wicked desires evil; His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.
^{21:16} A man who wanders from the way of understanding Will rest in the assembly of the dead.
^{21:18} The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, And the unfaithful for the upright.
^{21:27} The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent!
^{24:7} Wisdom is too lofty for a fool; He does not open his mouth in the gate.
^{24:8} He who plots to do evil Will be called a schemer.
^{24:9} The devising of foolishness is sin, And the scoffer is an abomination to men.
^{25:19} Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.
^{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.
^{25:26} A righteous man who falters before the wicked Is like a murky spring and a polluted well.
^{26:1} As snow in summer and rain in harvest, So honor is not fitting for a fool.
^{26:6} He who sends a message by the hand of a fool Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence.
^{26:7} Like the legs of the lame that hang limp Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.
^{26:8} Like one who binds a stone in a sling Is he who gives honor to a fool.
^{26:9} Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.
^{26:11} As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.
^{26:27} Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.
^{27:3} A stone is heavy and sand is weighty, But a fool's wrath is heavier than both of them.
^{27:20} Hell and Destruction are never full; So the eyes of man are never satisfied.
^{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.
^{28:17} A man burdened with bloodshed will flee into a pit; Let no one help him.
^{29:16} When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases; But the righteous will see their fall.
^{29:22} An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression.

Way of Wisdom

^{11:8} The righteous is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the wicked instead.
^{11:30} The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.
^{12:28} In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death.
^{13:14} The law of the wise is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.
^{14:7} Go from the presence of a foolish man, When you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge.
^{15:24} The way of life winds upward for the wise, That he may turn away from hell below.
^{15:30} The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, And a good report makes the bones healthy.
^{16:16} How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.
^{16:17} The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who keeps his way preserves his soul.
^{16:31} The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness.
^{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.
^{19:8} He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; He who keeps understanding will find good.
^{19:11} The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, And his glory is to overlook a transgression.
^{19:20} Listen to counsel and receive instruction, That you may be wise in your latter days.
^{19:22} What is desired in a man is kindness, And a poor man is better than a liar.
^{19:27} Cease listening to instruction, my son, And you will stray from the words of knowledge.
^{20:7} The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.
^{20:11} Even a child is known by his deeds, Whether what he does is pure and right.
^{21:21} He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness and honor.
^{21:22} A wise man scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.
^{22:11} He who loves purity of heart And has grace on his lips, The king will be his friend.
^{22:22-23} Do not rob the poor because he is poor, Nor oppress the afflicted at the gate; For the LORD will plead their cause, And plunder the soul of those who plunder them.
^{22:28} Do not remove the ancient landmark Which your fathers have set.
^{23:1-3} When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what is before you; And put a knife to your throat If you are a man given to appetite. Do not desire his delicacies, For they are deceptive food.
^{23:6-8} Do not eat the bread of a miser, Nor desire his delicacies; For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you. The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.
^{23:9} Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words.
^{23:10-11} Do not remove the ancient landmark, Nor enter the fields of the fatherless; For their Redeemer is mighty; He will plead their cause against you.
^{23:12} Apply your heart to instruction, And your ears to words of knowledge.
^{23:17-18} Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day; For surely there is a hereafter, And your hope will not be cut off.
^{23:19} Hear, my son, and be wise; And guide your heart in the way.
^{23:20-21} Do not mix with winebibbers, Or with gluttonous eaters of meat; For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, And drowsiness will clothe a man with rags.
^{23:22} Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.
^{23:23} Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.
^{23:25} Let your father and your mother be glad, And let her who bore you rejoice.
^{24:1-2} Do not be envious of evil men, Nor desire to be with them; For their heart devises violence, And their lips talk of troublemaking.
^{24:11} Deliver those who are drawn toward death, And hold back those stumbling to the slaughter.
^{24:13-14} My son, eat honey because it is good, And the honeycomb which is sweet to your taste; 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.
^{24:15-16} Do not lie in wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; Do not plunder his resting place; For a righteous man may fall seven times And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.
^{24:17-18} Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; Lest the LORD see it, and it displease Him, And He turn away His wrath from him.
^{24:19-20} Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the wicked; For there will be no prospect for the evil man; The lamp of the wicked will be put out.
^{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.
^{25:21-22} If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

Way of Wisdom cont.

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

^{26:4-5} Do not answer a fool according to his folly, Lest you also be like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes.

^{27:1} Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth.

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

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrast

- ^{10:2} Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, But righteousness delivers from death.
^{10:9} He who walks with integrity walks securely, But he who perverts his ways will become known.
^{10:12} Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.
^{10:23-24} To do evil is like sport to a fool, But a man of understanding has wisdom. The fear of the wicked will come upon him, And the desire of the righteous will be granted.
^{10:25} When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more, But the righteous has an everlasting foundation.
^{10:28} The hope of the righteous will be gladness, But the expectation of the wicked will perish.
^{10:30} The righteous will never be removed, But the wicked will not inhabit the earth.
^{11:3} The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.
^{11:5} The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright, But the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.
^{11:6} The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the unfaithful will be caught by their lust.
^{11:17} The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.
^{11:18} The wicked man does deceptive work, But he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward.
^{11:19} As righteousness leads to life, So he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.
^{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.
^{11:31} If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth, How much more the ungodly and the sinner.
^{12:3} A man is not established by wickedness, But the root of the righteous cannot be moved.
^{12:7} The wicked are overthrown and are no more, But the house of the righteous will stand.
^{12:8} A man will be commended according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.
^{12:9} Better is the one who is slighted but has a servant, Than he who honors himself but lacks bread.
^{12:10} A righteous man regards the life of his animal, But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
^{12:12} The wicked covet the catch of evil men, But the root of the righteous yields fruit
^{12:16} A fool's wrath is known at once, But a prudent man covers shame.
^{12:21} No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, But the wicked shall be filled with evil.
^{13:6} Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, But wickedness overthrows the sinner.
^{13:9} The light of the righteous rejoices, But the lamp of the wicked will be put out.
^{13:15} Good understanding gains favor, But the way of the unfaithful is hard.
^{13:17} A wicked messenger falls into trouble, But a faithful ambassador brings health.
^{13:19} A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul, But it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil.
^{13:20} He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.
^{13:21} Evil pursues sinners, But to the righteous, good shall be repaid.
^{14:8} The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way, But the folly of fools is deceit.
^{14:11} The house of the wicked will be overthrown, But the tent of the upright will flourish.
^{14:16} A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self-confident.
^{14:18} The simple inherit folly, But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
^{14:22} Do they not go astray who devise evil? But mercy and truth belong to those who devise good.
^{14:24} The crown of the wise is their riches, But the foolishness of fools is folly.
^{14:29} He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, But he who is impulsive exalts folly.
^{14:30} A sound heart is life to the body, But envy is rottenness to the bones.
^{14:32} The wicked is banished in his wickedness, But the righteous has a refuge in his death.
^{15:6} In the house of the righteous there is much treasure, But in the revenue of the wicked is trouble.
^{15:15} All the days of the afflicted are evil, But he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast.
^{15:21} Folly is joy to him who is destitute of discernment, But a man of understanding walks uprightly.
^{15:26} The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, But the words of the pure are pleasant.
^{16:8} Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice.
^{16:22} Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly.
^{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.
^{19:1} Better is the poor who walks in his integrity Than one who is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.
^{21:8} The way of a guilty man is perverse; But as for the pure, his work is right.
^{21:15} It is a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.
^{21:29} A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.
^{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.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrast cont.

^{24:24-25} He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous," Him the people will curse; Nations will abhor him. But those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, And a good blessing will come upon them.

^{25:16} Have you found honey? Eat only as much as you need, Lest you be filled with it and vomit.

^{27:12} A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on and are punished.

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

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

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

^{28:10} Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, He himself will fall into his own pit; But the blameless will inherit good.

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

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

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

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

^{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.

Women

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

^{18:22} He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor 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.

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

^{23:26-28} My son, give me your heart, And let your eyes observe my ways. For a harlot is a deep pit, And a seductress is a narrow well. She also lies in wait as for a victim, And increases the unfaithful among men.

^{25:24} It is better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

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

Work Ethic

- ^{10:4} He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.
- ^{10:5} He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.
- ^{10:16} The labor of the righteous leads to life, The wages of the wicked to sin.
- ^{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.
- ^{13:25} The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, But the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.
- ^{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.
- ^{21:25-26} The desire of the lazy man kills him, For his hands refuse to labor. He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.
- ^{22:13} The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!"
- ^{22:29} Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men.
- ^{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; And there it was, all overgrown with thorns; Its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down. When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.
- ^{26:13} The lazy man says, "There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion is in the streets!"
- ^{26:14} As a door turns on its hinges, So does the lazy man on his bed.
- ^{26:15} The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.
- ^{26:16} The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can answer sensibly.
- ^{28:19} He who tills his land will have plenty of bread, But he who follows frivolity will have poverty enough!

Editorial

*^{10:1} The Proverbs of Solomon: A wise son makes a glad father, But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

**^{24:23} These things also belong to the wise: It is not good to show partiality in judgment.

^{25:1} These also are proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied:

*See Family

**See Favoritism

Repeated Proverbs

- 26:7 *Like* the legs of the lame that hang limp *Is* a proverb in the mouth of fools.
26:9 *Like* a thorn *that* goes into the hand of a drunkard *Is* a proverb in the mouth of fools.
- 22:3 A prudent *man* foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.
27:12 A prudent *man* foresees evil *and* hides himself; The simple pass on *and* are punished.
- 19:5 A false witness will not go unpunished, And *he who* speaks lies will not escape.
19:9 A false witness will not go unpunished, And *he who* speaks lies shall perish.
- 26:20 Where *there is* no wood, the fire goes out; And where *there is* no talebearer, strife ceases.
26:21 As charcoal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire, So *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.
- 18:8 The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.
26:22 The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.
- 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.
- 14:12 There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death.
16:25 There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death.
- 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright *is* His delight.
21:27 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination; How much more *when* he brings it with wicked intent!
- 22:28 Do not remove the ancient landmark Which your fathers have set.
23:10 Do not remove the ancient landmark, Nor enter the fields of the fatherless; ^{23:11} For their Redeemer *is* mighty; He will plead their cause against you.
- 22:3 A prudent *man* foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.
27:12 A prudent *man* foresees evil *and* hides himself; The simple pass on *and* are punished.
- 22:13 The lazy *man* says, "*There is* a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!"
26:13 The lazy *man* says, "*There is* a lion in the road! A fierce lion *is* in the streets!"
- 19:24 A lazy *man* buries his hand in the bowl, And will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.
26:15 The lazy *man* buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.
- 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.
- 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.
25:24 *It is* better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.
- 11:21 *Though they join* forces, the wicked will not go unpunished; But the posterity of the righteous will be delivered.
16:5 Everyone proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD; *Though they join* forces, none will go unpunished.
- 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright *is* His delight.
15:26 The thoughts of the wicked *are* an abomination to the LORD, But *the words* of the pure *are* pleasant.
- 16:2 All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the spirits.
21:2 Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.
- 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.

^{27:13} Take the garment of him who is surety for a stranger, And hold it in pledge *when* he is surety for a seductress.

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

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

^{26:12} Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is* more hope for a fool than for him.

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

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

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