

Read the Bible in A Year: Chronological

Psalm 72,127
2 Chronicles 1:14-17; 7:11-22; 9
1 Kings 4
Proverbs 1-16

Readings for May 24-30, 2020

At this point in Israel's history, many accounts are recorded in 1 and 2 Kings and in 1 and 2 Chronicles. In this packet, passages from 1 or 2 Chronicles will be in regular type and those from 1 or 2 Kings will be in italic type. There will also be readings from Psalms and Proverbs that were written in these points in Israel's history. These psalms and proverbs will be center aligned and in a different font to set them apart. This all allows you to see how these stories and writings are repeated and how they all work together to give a more complete history...

We begin as Solomon completes his building projects of the Temple and the palace and the Lord gives him instructions for faithful leadership over His people.

Solomon built the house of the LORD and his royal house, and Solomon even rebuilt the cities that Hiram had given to him, and he settled the sons of Israel in them. Then Solomon went to Hamath Zobah and seized it. He also built Tadmor in the wilderness and all the store cities that he built in Hamath. He also built the Upper and Lower Beth Horon, fortified cities with walls, gates, and bars, and Baalath, and all the store cities that Solomon had, and all the cities for his chariots, the cities for his cavalry, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.

At that time Solomon offered up burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD that he built before the vestibule, according to the daily duty to offer up as the commandment of Moses for Sabbaths, New Moons, and the three annual festivals: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Tabernacles. According to the ruling of David his father, he set the divisions of the priests for their service, and the Levites for their function to praise and serve before the priests according to the daily duty, and even the gatekeepers for their divisions at each gate, for this was the commandment of David the man of God. And they did not turn from the commandment of the king, whether the priests or Levites, concerning any matter and concerning the treasury. So all the work of Solomon was established from the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD and until its completion; and the house of the LORD was complete.

When Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all else he desired, the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as He had appeared to him at Gibeon. The LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and supplication, which you made before Me. I have consecrated this house which you built by putting My name there forever. And My eyes and My heart shall be there perpetually. If you will walk before Me, as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and uprightness, so that you are obedient to do all that I have commanded you, and will keep My statutes and My judgments, then I will establish the throne of your kingdom upon Israel forever, just as I promised to your father David, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man upon the throne of Israel.' But if you and your sons turn in any way from following Me and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut Israel

out of the land which I have given them, and I will cast this house, which I have consecrated for My name, out of My sight, and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people. And everyone who passes by this high house will be astonished and will hiss, and they shall say, 'Why has the LORD done this to this land, and to this house?' And they will answer, 'Because they forsook the LORD their God, who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and took hold of other gods and have worshipped and served them. That is why the LORD has brought all this disaster upon them.'"

Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's house. And Solomon successfully accomplished everything that came into his heart to do in the house of the LORD and in his own house. Then the LORD appeared to Solomon at night, and He said to Solomon, "I have heard your prayer, and I have chosen for Myself in this place a house of sacrifice. When I shut up the heaven and there is no rain, or when I command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence on My people, if My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer of this place. So now I have chosen and consecrated this house that My name be there continually. My eyes and heart will be there for all days. And you, if you walk before Me as David your father did to do everything that I command you to do, and you keep My statutes and judgments, then I will set the throne of your kingdom as I made a covenant with David your father saying, 'You will not lack a man to rule Israel.' But if the people turn aside and abandon My statutes and commandments that I have given to you, and you walk after and serve other gods and worship them, then I will uproot them from My land that I have given to them; and the house that I have consecrated for My name, I will throw it from before Me and set it as a proverb and taunt among the peoples. And even though this house was majestic, it will lie desolate before all who pass by it, and they will say, 'Why did the LORD do such a thing to this land and this house?' Then they will say, 'Because they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers who brought them up from the land of Egypt, and they took hold of other gods and worshipped and served them; therefore He has brought on them all this disaster.'"

Solomon continues to build the kingdom...

When twenty years had passed since Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD and the king's house (now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar and fir trees, along with gold, as he had requested), King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities Solomon had given him, and he was not pleased with them. He said, "What cities are these which you have given me, my brother?" And he called them the land of Kabul to this day. Hiram sent to the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold.

And all the people who remained from the Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites who were not from Israel, and from their descendants who remained from these peoples in the land and whom the sons of Israel did not finish destroying, Solomon brought them up to be forced labor, even to this day. But from the sons of Israel Solomon did not make servants for his work. These were his soldiers, officers, commanders of his chariots, and horsemen. And these were the two hundred and fifty chief officers for King Solomon who governed the people. Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber and Elath at the shore of the sea in Edom. And Hiram sent him ships by the hand of his servants, who knew the sea. And they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took from there four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to King Solomon.

Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh from the City of David to the house that he built for her, for he said, "My wife will not live in the house of David king of Israel, for the places where the ark of the LORD have been are holy."

This is the account of the forced labor which King Solomon conscripted to build the house of the LORD and his own house, Millo, the wall of Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer. For Pharaoh, king of Egypt, had gone up against and conquered Gezer and burned it with fire and slain the Canaanites that lived in the city and given it as a present to his daughter, Solomon's wife. Solomon built Gezer and Lower Beth Horon and Baalath and Tadmor in the wilderness, in the land, and all the storage cities that Solomon had, cities for his chariots and cities for his horsemen and all that which Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem and in Lebanon and in all the land of his dominion.

All the people who were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who were not children of Israel, the descendants of those who were left in the land and whom the people of Israel were not able to utterly destroy, were conscripted by Solomon for slave labor to this day. But Solomon did not make any children of Israel into slaves, but instead used them as men of war, as his servants, his leaders, his captains, rulers of his chariots, and his horsemen. These were the chief officers over Solomon's work, five hundred and fifty, who ruled over the people who did the labor. But Pharaoh's daughter moved out of the City of David to her house which Solomon had built for her, and he then built Millo.

Three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar that he built to the LORD, and he burned incense on the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the house. King Solomon built a fleet of ships in Ezion Geber, which is beside Elath on the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom. Hiram sent shipmen who had knowledge of the sea to serve alongside Solomon's men. They went to Ophir and acquired four hundred and twenty talents^[b] of gold there and brought it to King Solomon.



Now when the queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's fame connected to the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices, and very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. Solomon answered all her questions; there was not anything too difficult for the king which he could not answer. When the queen of Sheba observed Solomon's wisdom and the house he had built and the meat of his table and the sitting of his

servants and the attendance of his ministers and their clothing and his cupbearers and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, it took her breath away. She said to the king, "What I heard in my own land about your acts and your wisdom was true! I did not believe it until I came and saw it with my own eyes! In fact, I was not even told half. Your wisdom and prosperity are greater than the stories I heard! Happy are your men, and happy are these your servants who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel, because the LORD loved Israel forever; therefore He made you king in order to execute judgment and justice." She gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold and a great amount of spices and precious stones. No one gave as many spices as the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

The ships of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, also brought from Ophir a large quantity of almug wood and precious stones. The king made pillars for the house of the LORD out of the almug trees and

harps also and psalteries for singers for the king's house. Never before had such almyg wood been brought, nor has any such been seen to this day.

King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all she desired, no matter what she asked for, in addition to what Solomon gave her from his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

The queen of Sheba heard a report of Solomon, and she came to Jerusalem with a very impressive retinue—with camels carrying spices, an abundance of gold, and precious stones—to test Solomon with riddles. When she came to Solomon she shared with him everything that was on her heart. Solomon declared to her everything that she asked, and there was not any matter concealed from Solomon that he did not declare to her. When the queen of Sheba had observed the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food on his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, and their clothing, his valets, and their clothing, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit left in her.

Then she said to the king, “True was the report that I heard in my land concerning your words and wisdom. But I did not believe their reports until I came and my eyes saw; and indeed, half the greatness of your wisdom was not declared to me. You have exceeded the report that I heard. How happy your men must be! How happy these servants, those who are continually before you listening to your wisdom. May the LORD your God be blessed, who has delighted in you, to set you as king on the throne of the LORD your God. Your God has loved Israel to establish them continually and has set you as king over them to perform justice and righteousness.” Then she gave the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold and a great abundance of spices and precious stones. And there were no spices like those that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon. Moreover, the servants of Hiram and Solomon who brought gold from Ophir also brought almyg wood and precious stones. And the king used the almyg wood for steps for the house of the LORD and the palace of the king, even for lyres and harps for the singers. And there had not been anything seen like these in the land of Judah. And King Solomon gave everything to the queen of Sheba in which she had pleasure, even what she asked for in addition to what she brought to the king. Then she turned and left for her own land with her servants.

The Success of Solomon's Reign

Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold. In addition, he collected from the merchantmen and the traffic of the spice merchants and from all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the country. King Solomon made two hundred large shields of beaten gold made of six hundred shekels of gold each. He made three hundred shields of beaten gold with three pounds of gold in each shield. And the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. The king also made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with the best gold. The throne had six steps, and the back of the throne was round, and there were armrests on either side of the seat with two lions standing beside the armrests. Twelve lions stood on the sides of the six steps, and there was no other like it in any kingdom. All of King Solomon's drinking cups were made of gold, and all the cups of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were made of pure gold. None were made of silver, for it was not considered valuable in the days of Solomon. For the king had ships at sea at Tarshish with the ships of Hiram. Every three years the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks. So King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth in terms of riches and wisdom. All the earth came to Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. Everyone brought an annual tribute in the form of presents, silver and gold cups, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules. Solomon gathered together chariots

and horsemen. He had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen whom he stationed in the cities for chariots and with the king at Jerusalem. The king made silver to be in Jerusalem as plentiful as stones, and he made cedars to be as plentiful as sycamore trees in the valley. Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt along with linen yarn. The king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price. He brought chariots from Egypt at a price of six hundred shekels of silver and a horse for a hundred and fifty. And he exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram, by their means.

The weight of gold that came to Solomon every year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold. In addition to what the explorers and merchants brought in, all the kings of Arabia and governors of the land brought in gold and silver to Solomon. King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold, and six hundred gold pieces were used for each large shield. And he made three hundred shields of hammered gold; three hundred gold pieces were used for each shield. And the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. And the king made a great throne of ivory, and he covered it with fine gold. And there were six steps and a gold footstool attached to the throne, and on each side at the place of the seat were armrests with two lions standing beside the armrests. So twelve lions stood there on the six steps, one on each side, and there was nothing like this in any kingdom. Even all the drinking vessels of King Solomon were gold, and all the vessels in the House of the Forest of Lebanon were fine gold. And silver was not thought to be valuable in the days of Solomon. The ships of Solomon went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the ships of Tarshish returned carrying gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks. So King Solomon was greater than all the kings of the earth in wealth and wisdom. All the kings of the earth sought out an audience before Solomon to hear his wisdom that God gave to his mind. Every year each man brought his own tribute, vessels of silver and gold, garments, myrrh, spices, horses, and mules. Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots and twelve thousand horses, and he put them in designated cities and with him in Jerusalem. He ruled over all the kings from the River to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt. So the king made silver in Jerusalem as abundant as stones and cedar as plentiful as sycamore trees in the lowlands of the Shephelah. The horses of Solomon were imported from Egypt and from all other lands.

Solomon gathered together chariots and horses. He had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, and he put them in designated cities and with the king in Jerusalem. The king made silver and gold in Jerusalem as abundant as stones and cedar as plentiful as sycamore trees in the lowlands of the Shephelah. The horses of Solomon were imported from Egypt and Kue, and the traders of the king would take them from Kue for a price. They imported chariots from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver and a horse for one hundred and fifty pieces. And they imported from these places to all the kings of the Hittites and Arameans.

So King Solomon was king over all Israel. These were the officials in his court: Azariah the son of Zadok was the priest. Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, were secretaries. Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder; Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the army. Zadok and Abiathar were priests. Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers, and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer and the king's friend. Ahishar was over the household, and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the forced labor. Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel who made provision for the king and his household. Each man was assigned a month to make provision. These are their names: the son of Hur in Mount Ephraim; the son of Deker in Makaz and in Shaalbim and Beth Shemesh and Elon Bethhanan; the son of Hesed in Arubboth (to him belonged Sokoh and all the land of Hepher; the son of Abinadab in all the region of Dor (he had Taphath the daughter of Solomon as his wife); Baana the son of Ahilud in Taanach, Megiddo, and all Beth Shan that is by Zarethan beneath Jezreel, and from Beth Shan to Abel Meholah as far as the other side of Jokmeam; the son of Geber in Ramoth Gilead (to him pertained the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh which are in Gilead, and also the region of Argob which is in Bashan, sixty great

cities with walls and iron bars); Ahinadab the son of Iddo in Mahanaim; Ahimaaz in Naphtali (he had taken Basemath the daughter of Solomon as his wife); Baana the son of Hushai in Asher and in Aloth; Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah in Issachar; Shimei the son of Ela in Benjamin; Geber the son of Uri in the country of Gilead, the country of Sihon king of the Amorites and of Og king of Bashan. He was the only officer who was in that region.

Judah and Israel had a large populace, as numerous as the sand by the sea. They ate and drank and were happy. Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt. The people brought presents and served Solomon all the days of his life. Solomon's provision for one day was thirty kors of fine flour and sixty kors of meal, ten fat oxen and twenty pasture-fed cattle, a hundred sheep in addition to deer, roebucks, gazelle, and fatted poultry. For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River^l from Tiphshah to Gaza, over all the kings on this side of the River, and he had peace on all borders of his land.

Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots and twelve thousand horsemen. Those officers made provision for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon's table, every man in his month, and they lacked nothing. Barley also and straw for the horses and dromedaries were brought to the place where the officers were, every man according to his charge.

God gave Solomon wisdom and great depth of understanding as well as compassion, as vast as the sand on the seashore. Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the people of the East country and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, Heman, Kalkol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; his fame spread throughout all the surrounding nations. He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs numbered a thousand and five. He spoke of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that springs out of the wall. He also spoke of beasts and of fowl and of insects and fish. People from all over came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.

Judah and Israel lived safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan to Beersheba all the days of Solomon.

Psalm 72- A Psalm of Solomon. A Prayer.

Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.
May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.
May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
may he crush the oppressor.
May he endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.
May he be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.
In his days may the righteous flourish
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

May he rule from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
May the desert tribes bow before him
and his enemies lick the dust.
May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores
bring tribute to him.
May the kings of Sheba and Seba
present him gifts.
May all kings bow down to him
and all nations serve him.

For he will deliver the needy who cry out,
the afflicted who have no one to help.
He will take pity on the weak and the needy
and save the needy from death.
He will rescue them from oppression and violence,
for precious is their blood in his sight.

Long may he live!
May gold from Sheba be given him.
May people ever pray for him
and bless him all day long.
May grain abound throughout the land;
on the tops of the hills may it sway.
May the crops flourish like Lebanon
and thrive like the grass of the field.
May his name endure forever;
may it continue as long as the sun.

Then all nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.

Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.
Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen and Amen.

Psalm 127- A Psalm of Solomon. A Song.

Unless the LORD builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.
In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

Children are a heritage from the LORD,
offspring a reward from him.

Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.
Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.
They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their opponents in court.

Proverbs 1-16

Words of Wisdom and Instruction Attributed to Solomon-for His Son

Introduction: Theme and Purpose

The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity; to give subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion—a wise man will hear and will increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and the interpretation, the words of the wise and their riddles. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The Prologue: Embrace Wisdom

My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the teaching of your mother; for they will be a garland of grace on your head, and chains about your neck. My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent. If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause; let us swallow them up alive as the grave, and whole, as those who go down into the pit; we will find all kinds of precious possessions; we will fill our houses with spoil; cast in your lot among us, let us all have one purse"—my son, do not walk in the way with them, keep your foot from their path; for their feet run to evil and make haste to shed blood. Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. They lie in wait for their own blood; they lurk secretly for their own lives. So are the ways of everyone who is greedy of gain, which takes away the life of its owners.

The Call of Wisdom

Wisdom cries out in the street; she utters her voice in the markets. She cries at the corner of the streets, in the openings of the gates; she speaks her words in the city, saying:

“How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge. Turn at my reproof; surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no man regarded, because you neglected all my counsel, and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes, when your fear comes as desolation and your destruction comes as a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will seek me early, but they will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, they would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof. Therefore they will eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple will slay them, and the prosperity of fools will destroy them. But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure from fear of evil.”

The Value of Wisdom

My son, if you will receive my words, and hide my commandments within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for knowledge, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; out of His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous He is a shield to those who walk uprightly. He keeps the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints.

Then you will understand righteousness and judgment and equity, and every good path. When wisdom enters your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul, discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you, to deliver you from the way of the evil man, from the man who speaks perverse things, from those who leave the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness; who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the perversity of the wicked; whose ways are crooked, and who are devious in their paths; to deliver you from the immoral woman, even from the seductress who flatters with her words, who forsakes the guide of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God. For her house leads down to death, and her paths to the departed spirits; none who go to her return again, nor do they take hold of the paths of life. So you may walk in the way of good men and keep the paths of the righteous.

For the upright will dwell in the land, and the innocent will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors will be rooted out of it.

The Rewards of Wisdom

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and long life and peace will they add to you. Do not let mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, so you will find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your body, and strength to your bones. Honor the LORD with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your presses will burst out with new wine. My son do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be weary of His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, even as a father the son in whom he delights. Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gets understanding; for her benefit is more profitable than silver, and her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, and all the things you may desire are not to be compared with her. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left-hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy is everyone who retains her. The LORD by wisdom has founded the earth; by understanding He has established the heavens; by His knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew. My son let them not depart from your eyes—keep sound wisdom and discretion; so they will be life to your soul and grace to your neck. Then you will walk safely in your way, and your foot will not stumble. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet. Do not be afraid of sudden terror, nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give it," when you have it with you. Do not devise evil against your neighbor, seeing he dwells securely by you. Do not strive with a man without cause, if he has done you no harm. Do not envy the oppressor and choose none of his ways; for the perverse is an abomination to the LORD, but His secret counsel is with the righteous. The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the habitation of the just.

Surely, He scorns the scornful, but He gives favor to the humble. The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the legacy of fools.

Wisdom Is Supreme

Hear, O children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching. For I was my father's son, tender and the only beloved in the sight of my mother. He also taught me and said to me, "Let your heart retain my words; keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget it, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is principal; therefore, get wisdom. And with all your getting, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will promote you; she will bring you honor, when you embrace her. She will place on your head an ornament of grace; a crown of glory she will deliver to you."

Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, and the years of your life will be many. I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble. Take firm hold of instruction, do not let her go; keep her, for she is your life. Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not go in the way of evil men. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and pass on. For they do not sleep unless they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shines more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness; they do not know at what they stumble.

My son, attend to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their body. Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put perverse lips far from you. Let your eyes look right on, and let your eyelids look straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or to the left; remove your foot from evil.

Warning Against Adultery

My son, attend to my wisdom, and bow your ear to my understanding, that you may regard discretion, and that your lips may keep knowledge. For the lips of an immoral woman drip as a

honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death, her steps take hold of Sheol. She does not ponder the path of life; her ways are unstable, and she does not know it. Hear me now therefore, O children, and do not depart from the words of my mouth. Remove your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house, lest you give your honor to others, and your years to the cruel; lest strangers be filled with your wealth, and your labors go to the house of a stranger; and you mourn at the last, when your flesh and your body are consumed, and say, "How I have hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof! And I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined my ear to those who instructed me! I was almost in utter ruin in the midst of the congregation and assembly."

Drink waters out of your own cistern and running waters out of your own well. Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be only your own, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed and rejoice with the wife of your youth. Let her be as the loving deer and pleasant doe; let her breasts satisfy you at all times; and always be enraptured with her love. Why should you, my son, be intoxicated by an immoral woman, and embrace the bosom of a seductress? For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and He ponders all his goings. His own iniquities entrap the wicked himself, and he is snared in the cords of his sins. He will die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly he will go astray.

Warning Against Pledges

My son, if you put up a security for your friend, if you have shaken hands with a stranger, you are snared with the words of your mouth; you are taken with the words of your mouth. Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself; when you have come into the hand of your friend, go and humble yourself; plead with your friend. Give no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids. Deliver yourself as a doe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler.

The Folly of Idleness

Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise. Which, having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provides her bread in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you sleep, O sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep? Yet a little sleep, a

little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep—so will your poverty come upon you like a stalker, and your need as an armed man.

The Wicked Man

A wayward person, a wicked man, walks with a perverse mouth. He winks with his eyes, he signals with his feet, he motions with his fingers; perversity is in his heart, he devises mischief continually, he sows discord. Therefore, his calamity will come suddenly; in a moment he will be broken without remedy. These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked imaginations, feet that are swift in running to mischief, a false witness who speaks lies, and he who sows discord among brethren.

Another Warning Against Adultery

My son, keep your father's commandment, and do not forsake the instruction of your mother. Bind them continually upon your heart and tie them around your neck. When you go, they will lead you; when you sleep, they will keep you; and when you awake, they will speak with you. For the commandment is a lamp, and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life, to keep you from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a seductress. Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of a harlot a man is reduced to a piece of bread, and the adulteress will prey upon his precious life.

Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one walk upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; whoever touches her will not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy himself when he is hungry. But if he is found, he will restore sevenfold; he will give all the substance of his house. But whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; he who does it destroys his own soul. A wound and dishonor will he get, and his reproach will not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man; therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not regard any ransom, nor will he rest content, though you give many gifts.

My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments within you. Keep my commandments and live, and my teaching as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call understanding your kinswoman, that they may keep you from the immoral woman, from the seductress who flatters with her words.

For at the window of my house, I looked through my casement, and saw among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night. And there a woman met him, with the attire of a harlot, and subtle of heart. She is loud and stubborn; her feet do not abide in her house. Now she is without, now in the streets, and lies in wait at every corner. So she caught him, and kissed him; and with an impudent face said to him: "I have peace offerings with me, this day have I paid my vows. Therefore, I came out to meet you, diligently to seek your face, and I have found you. I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning; let us solace ourselves with love. For my husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey; he has taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed." With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she seduced him. He went after her straightway, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks, until a dart struck through his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, he did not know that it would cost him his life.

Listen to me now therefore, O children, and attend to the words of my mouth: do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, do not go astray in her paths; for she has cast down many wounded, and many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.

The Virtue of Wisdom

Does not wisdom cry out, and understanding lift up her voice? She stands on the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She cries out at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the entrance of the doors:

"To you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of men. O you simple, understand wisdom, and you fools, be of an understanding heart. Hear, for I will speak of excellent things, and from the opening of my lips will be right things; for my mouth will speak truth, and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing crooked or perverse in them. They are all plain to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge. Receive my instruction, and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge and discretion. The

fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate. Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom; I am understanding, I have strength. By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth. I love those who love me, and those who seek me early will find me. Riches and honor are with me, yes, enduring riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, and my revenue than choice silver. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of justice, that I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, and I will fill their treasuries. The LORD possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, before there was ever an earth. When there were no depths, I was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills I was brought forth; while as yet He had not made the earth or the fields, or the first dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there, when He drew a circle on the face of the deep, when He established the clouds above, when He strengthened the fountains of the deep, when He gave to the sea His decree, that the waters should not pass His commandment, when He appointed the foundations of the earth, then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him, rejoicing in the habitable part of His earth, and my delights were with the sons of men. Now therefore listen to me, O you children, for blessed are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and do not refuse it. Blessed is the man who hears me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, and will obtain favor of the LORD; but he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; all those who hate me love death."

The Way of Wisdom

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn out her seven pillars; she has killed her beasts, she has mixed her wine, she has also furnished her table. She has sent out her maidens, she cries out from the highest places of the city, "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here." As for him who wants understanding, she says to him, "Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mixed. Forsake foolishness and live, and go in the way of understanding."

He who reproves a scorner gets shame for himself, and he who rebukes a wicked man gets hurt. Do not reprove a scorner, lest he hate you; rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. Give

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

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For by me your days will be multiplied, and the years of your life will be increased. If you are wise, you will be wise for yourself, but if you scorn, you alone will bear it.

The Way of Foolishness

A foolish woman is clamorous; she is simple and knows nothing. For she sits at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city, to call those who pass by who go right on their way: "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here." And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him, "Stolen waters are sweet and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." But he does not know that the dead are there, and that her guests are in the depths of the grave.

The Proverbs of Solomon

The various proverbs of Solomon...

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

Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, but righteousness delivers from death.

The LORD will not allow the soul of the righteous to famish,
but He casts away the desire of the wicked.

He becomes poor who deals with a slack hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

He who gathers in summer is a wise son,
but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

Blessings are on the head of the just, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

The memory of the just is blessed, but the name of the wicked will rot.

The wise in heart will receive commandments, but a prating fool will fall.

He who walks uprightly walks surely, but he who perverts his ways will be known.

He who winks with the eye causes sorrow, but a prating fool will fall.

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

Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins.

In the lips of him who has understanding wisdom is found,
but a rod is for the back of him who is void of understanding.

Wise men store up knowledge, but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

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

The labor of the righteous tends to life, the fruit of the wicked to sin.

He who keeps instruction is in the way of life, but he who refuses reproof errs.

He who hides hatred has lying lips, and he who spreads slander is a fool.

In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

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

The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of wisdom.

The blessing of the LORD makes rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.

To do mischief is like sport to a fool, but a man of understanding has wisdom.

The fear of the wicked will come upon him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted.

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

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

The fear of the LORD prolongs days, but the years of the wicked will be shortened.

The hope of the righteous will be gladness, but the expectation of the wicked will perish.

The way of the LORD is strength to the upright,
but destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

The righteous will never be removed, but the wicked will not inhabit the earth.

The mouth of the just brings forth wisdom,
but the perverse tongue will be cut out.

The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable,
but the mouth of the wicked speaks what is perverse.

A false balance is abomination to the LORD, but a just weight is His delight.

When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom.

The integrity of the upright will guide them,
but the perverseness of transgressors will destroy them.

Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

The righteousness of the upright will direct his way,
but the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.

The righteousness of the upright will deliver them,
but transgressors will be taken by their schemes.

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

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

A hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor,
but through knowledge the just will be delivered.

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

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

He who is void of wisdom despises his neighbor,
but a man of understanding holds his peace.

A talebearer reveals secrets,
but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals the matter.

Where there is no counsel, the people fall;
but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

He who puts up a pledge for a stranger will suffer for it,
and he who hates being a pledge is secure.

A gracious woman retains honor, but ruthless men retain riches.

The merciful man does good to his own soul,
but he who is cruel troubles his own body.

The wicked works a deceitful work,
but to him who sows righteousness will be a sure reward.

As righteousness tends to life,
so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.

Those who are of a perverse heart are abomination to the LORD,
but such as are upright in their way are His delight.

Though be assured, the wicked will not be unpunished,
but the posterity of the righteous will be delivered.

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

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

There is *one* who scatters yet increases;
and there is *one* who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty.

The generous soul will be made rich,
and he who waters will be watered also himself.

The people will curse him who withholds grain,
but blessing will be upon the head of him who sells it.

He who diligently seeks good procures favor,
but he who seeks mischief, it will come to him.

He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish as a branch.

He who troubles his own house will inherit the wind,
and the fool will be servant to the wise of heart.

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

If the righteous will be recompensed in the earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner.

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is brutish.

A good man obtains favor of the LORD, but a man of wicked devices will He condemn.

A man will not be established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will not be moved.

A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband,
but she who brings shame is as rottenness in his bones.

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

The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for blood,"
but the mouth of the upright will deliver them.

The wicked are overthrown, and are not, but the house of the righteous will stand.

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

He who is lightly esteemed and has a servant is better
than he who honors himself and lacks bread.

A righteous man regards the life of his animal, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread,
but he who follows vain persons is void of understanding.

The wicked covet the plunder of evil men,
but the root of the righteous yields fruit.

The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips,
but the just will come out of trouble.

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.

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who listens to counsel is wise.

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

He who speaks truth shows forth righteousness, but a false witness deceit.

There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword,
but the tongue of the wise is health.

The truthful lip will be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Deceit is in the heart of those who imagine evil,
but to the counselors of peace is joy.

There will be no evil happen to the just, but the wicked will be filled with mischief.

Lying lips are abomination to the LORD, but those who deal truly are His delight.

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

The hand of the diligent will rule, but the slothful will be put to forced labor.

Heaviness in the heart of man makes it droop, but a good word makes it glad.

The righteous is a guide to his neighbors, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

The slothful man does not roast that which he took in hunting,
but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

In the way of righteousness is life, and in its pathway, there is no death.

A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

A man will eat well by the fruit of his mouth,
but the soul of the transgressor will eat violence.

He who guards his mouth preserves his life,
but he who opens wide his lips will have destruction.

The soul of the sluggard desires, and has nothing;
but the soul of the diligent will be made fat.

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

Righteousness keeps him who is upright in the way, but wickedness overthrows the sinner.

There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing;
there is one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches.

The ransom of a man's life is his riches, but the poor does not hear rebuke.

The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

Only by pride comes contention, but with the well-advised is wisdom.

Wealth gained by vanity will be diminished, but he who gathers by labor will increase.

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

Whoever despises the word will be destroyed,
but he who fears the commandment will be rewarded.

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

Good understanding gives favor, but the way of transgressors is hard.

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

A wicked messenger falls into mischief, but a faithful envoy is health.

Poverty and shame will be to him who refuses instruction,
but he who regards reproof will be honored.

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

He who walks with wise men will be wise,
but a companion of fools will be destroyed.

Evil pursues sinners, but to the righteous good will be repaid.

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

Much food is in the tillage of the poor, but for lack of justice it is destroyed.

He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him early.

The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul,
but the stomach of the wicked will want.

Every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD,
but he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.

In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride, but the lips of the wise will preserve them.

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

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

A scorner seeks wisdom and does not find it,
but knowledge is easy to him who understands.

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

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

Fools make a mock at sin, but among the righteous there is favor.

The heart knows its own bitterness, and a stranger does not share its joy.

The house of the wicked will be overthrown, but the tent of the upright will flourish.

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful, and the end of that cheer is grief.

The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways,
but a good man will be satisfied with his.

The simple believes every word, but the prudent man considers his steps.

A wise man fears and departs from evil,
but the fool rages and is self-confident.

He who is quick-tempered deals foolishly, and a man of wicked devices is hated.

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

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

The poor is hated even by his own neighbor, but the rich has many friends.

He who despises his neighbor sins,
but he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he.

Do they not err who devise evil?

But mercy and truth will be to those who devise good.

In all labor there is profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

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

A true witness delivers souls, but a deceitful witness speaks lies.

In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence,
and His children will have a place of refuge.

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

In the multitude of people is a king's honor,
but in the lack of people is the destruction of a prince.

He who is slow to wrath is of great understanding,
but he who is hasty of spirit exalts folly.

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

He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker,
but he who honors Him has mercy on the poor.

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

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

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

The king's favor is toward a wise servant, but his wrath is against him who causes shame.

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

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

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it crushes the spirit.

A fool despises his father's instruction, but he who regards reproof is prudent.

In the house of the righteous is much treasure, but in the revenue of the wicked is trouble.

The lips of the wise disperse knowledge, but the heart of the foolish does not do so.

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD,
but the prayer of the upright is His delight.

The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD,
but He loves him who follows after righteousness.

Correction is grievous to him who forsakes the way, and he who hates reproof will die.

Death and destruction are before the LORD;
so how much more the hearts of the children of men.

A scorner does not love one who reproves him, nor will he go to the wise.

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

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge,
but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

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

Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure with trouble.

Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fatted calf with hatred.

A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger appeases strife.

The way of the slothful man is as a hedge of thorns,
but the way of the righteous is made plain.

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

Folly is joy to him who is destitute of wisdom,
but a man of understanding walks uprightly.

Without counsel, purposes are disappointed,
but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

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

The way of life leads above for the wise, that he may depart from Sheol below.

The LORD will destroy the house of the proud,
but He will establish the border of the widow.

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD,
but the words of the pure are pleasant words.

He who is greedy of gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live.

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

The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones healthy.

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

He who refuses instruction despises his own soul,
but he who hears reproof gains understanding.

The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and before honor is humility.

The preparations of the heart belong to man,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit.

Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.

The LORD has made all things for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of evil.

Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD;
be assured, he will not be unpunished.

By mercy and truth iniquity is purged; and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

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

Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice.

A man's heart devises his way, but the LORD directs his steps.

A divine sentence is in the lips of the king; his mouth does not transgress in judgment.

A just weight and balance belong to the LORD; all the weights of the bag are His work.

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

Righteous lips are the delight of kings, and they love him who speaks right.

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

In the light of the king's countenance is life,
and his favor is as a cloud of the latter rain.

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

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; he who keeps his way preserves his soul.

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

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

He who handles a matter wisely will find good, and whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.

The wise in heart will be called prudent, and the sweetness of the lips increases learning.

Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it,
but the instruction of fools is folly.

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

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

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

He who labors, labors for himself, for his mouth craves it of him.

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

A perverse man sows strife, and a whisperer separates the best of friends.

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

He shuts his eyes to devise perverse things; moving his lips he brings evil to pass.

The gray-haired head is a crown of glory if it is found in the way of righteousness.

He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole outcome is of the LORD.