

The Bible  
**Proverbs 9 - 16**  
King James Version

Arranged by  
**M. David Johnson**

## Proverbs 9 - 16

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*“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”* (Revelation 22:18-19).

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## PROVERBS

### Chapter 9

- 1 Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:
- 2 She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table.
- 3 She hath sent forth her maidens: she crieth upon the highest places of the city,
- 4 Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,
- 5 Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.
- 6 Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding.
- 7 He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot.
- 8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.
- 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.
- 11 For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.
- 12 If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it.
- 13 A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing.
- 14 For she sitteth at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city,
- 15 To call passengers who go right on their ways:
- 16 Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,
- 17 Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.
- 18 But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.

### Chapter 10

- 1 The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.
- 2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.
- 3 The LORD will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.
- 4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.
- 5 He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.
- 6 Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.
- 7 The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.
- 8 The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.
- 9 He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.
- 10 He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.
- 11 The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.
- 12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

13 In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

14 Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

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

16 The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin.

17 He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.

18 He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.

19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

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

21 The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

22 The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

23 It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom.

24 The fear of the wicked, it shall come upon him: but the desire of the righteous shall be granted.

25 As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

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

27 The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

28 The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.

29 The way of the LORD is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

30 The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

31 The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out.

32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaketh frowardness.

## Chapter 11

1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.

2 When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.

5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.

7 When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth.

8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

9 An hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

10 When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting.

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

12 He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

15 He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretyship is sure.

16 A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches.

17 The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.

18 The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

19 As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

20 They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

21 Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

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

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

24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall; but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

29 He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

31 Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

## Chapter 12

1 Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.

2 A good man obtaineth favour of the LORD: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

3 A man shall not be established by wickedness: but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.

4 A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

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

6 The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.

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

8 A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.

9 He that is despised, and hath a servant, is better than he that honoureth himself, and lacketh bread.

10 A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

11 He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

12 The wicked desireth the net of evil men: but the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.

13 The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

16 A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame.

17 He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

19 The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

20 Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

21 There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief.

22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

23 A prudent man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaimeth foolishness.

24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

25 Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad.

26 The righteous is more excellent than his neighbour: but the way of the wicked seduceth them.

27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

28 In the way of righteousness is life: and in the pathway thereof there is no death.

### Chapter 13

1 A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

2 A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

4 The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

5 A righteous man hateth lying: but a wicked man is loathsome, and cometh to shame.

6 Righteousness keepeth him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthroweth the sinner.

7 There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.

8 The ransom of a man's life are his riches: but the poor heareth not rebuke.

9 The light of the righteous rejoiceth: but the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.

10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

11 Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

13 Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

- 14 The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.  
 15 Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.  
 16 Every prudent man dealeth with knowledge: but a fool layeth open his folly.  
 17 A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.  
 18 Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.  
 19 The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil.  
 20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.  
 21 Evil pursueth sinners: but to the righteous good shall be repayed.  
 22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.  
 23 Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.  
 24 He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.  
 25 The righteous eateth to the satisfying of his soul: but the belly of the wicked shall want.

## Chapter 14

- 1 Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.  
 2 He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.  
 3 In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.  
 4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.  
 5 A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.  
 6 A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth.  
 7 Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge.  
 8 The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit.  
 9 Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.  
 10 The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy.  
 11 The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish.  
 12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.  
 13 Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness.  
 14 The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.  
 15 The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.  
 16 A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.  
 17 He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated.  
 18 The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.  
 19 The evil bow before the good; and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.  
 20 The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the rich hath many friends.  
 21 He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.  
 22 Do they not err that devise evil? but mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good.  
 23 In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.  
 24 The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly.

- 25 A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies.  
 26 In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.  
 27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.  
 28 In the multitude of people is the king's honour: but in the want of people is the destruction of the prince.  
 29 He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.  
 30 A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.  
 31 He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.  
 32 The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death.  
 33 Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding: but that which is in the midst of fools is made known.  
 34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.  
 35 The king's favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame.

## Chapter 15

- 1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.  
 2 The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.  
 3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.  
 4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.  
 5 A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.  
 6 In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.  
 7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish doeth not so.  
 8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.  
 9 The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.  
 10 Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.  
 11 Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?  
 12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.  
 13 A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.  
 14 The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.  
 15 All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.  
 16 Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.  
 17 Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.  
 18 A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife.  
 19 The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain.  
 20 A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.  
 21 Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walketh uprightly.  
 22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.



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

24 The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.

25 The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

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

27 He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

28 The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

29 The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

30 The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart: and a good report maketh the bones fat.

31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.

32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

## Chapter 16

1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

4 The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

5 Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

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

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

8 Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

10 A divine sentence is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

11 A just weight and balance are the LORD'S: all the weights of the bag are his work.

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

13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings; and they love him that speaketh right.

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

15 In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.

16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

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

20 He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

21 The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.

22 Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.

23 The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

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

25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

26 He that laboureth laboureth for himself; for his mouth craveth it of him.

27 An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire.

28 A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

29 A violent man enticeth his neighbour, and leadeth him into the way that is not good.

30 He shutteth his eyes to devise froward things: moving his lips he bringeth evil to pass.

31 The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.

32 He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.