

The Book of Proverbs – categorised (NKJV)

The book of Proverbs is really a large collection of nine shorter collections:

1:1-7 Introduction
1:8-9:18 Counsel for Youth
10:1-22:16 Proverbs of Solomon
22:17-24:22 Thirty Sayings of the Wise
24:23-34 More Sayings of the Wise
25:1-29:27 More Proverbs of Solomon
30:1-33 Sayings of Agur
31:1-9 Sayings of King Lemuel
31:10-31 The Wife of Noble Character

In this work, each of the collections above has been subdivided into the following subjects, where applicable:

- **The virtues of instruction, knowledge, understanding, wisdom** (Including *Exhortation to seek wisdom, and listen to counsel and instruction*)
- **Family** (Including *An Immoral Woman / Adulteress*)
- **The LORD / God** (Including *The Fear of the LORD*)
- **The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness**
- **The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness**
- **Wealth**
- **Work Ethic**
- **The Heart: what one feels and thinks, also including spirit, when used of one's attitude**
- **A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.**
- **The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken**
- **Miscellaneous**

There may be several ways to categorise the Proverbs – this is just one attempt. Note that the same verse or passage sometimes appears more than once, and under multiple categories.

This work is not intended to replace the book of Proverbs in its usual Biblical form. Rather, this is a grouping together of the main topics within each of the shorter collected works in this most insightful Bible book.

David Tavender
February 2020

Proverbs 1:1 to 1:7

Introduction

1:1-6

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 prudence to the simple,
To the young man knowledge and discretion—
A wise man will hear and increase learning,
And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,
To understand a proverb and an enigma,
The words of the wise and their riddles.

1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 1:8 to 9:18

Counsel for Youth

**The virtues of instruction, knowledge,
understanding, wisdom**

1:20-33

Wisdom calls aloud outside;
She raises her voice in the open squares.
She cries out in the chief concourses,
At the openings of the gates in the city
She speaks her words:
“How long, you simple ones, will you love
simplicity?
For scorners delight in their scorning,
And fools hate knowledge.
Turn at my rebuke;
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 one
regarded,
Because you disdained all my counsel,
And would have none of my rebuke,
I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your terror comes,
When your terror comes like a storm,
And your destruction comes like a whirlwind,
When distress and anguish come upon you.
“Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;
They will seek me diligently, 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 my every rebuke.
Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own
way,
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.
For the turning away of the simple will slay
them,
And the complacency of fools will destroy them;
But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,
And will be secure, without fear of evil.”

2:10-22

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 evil,
From the man who speaks perverse things,
From those who leave the paths of uprightness
To walk in the ways of darkness;
Who rejoice in doing 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,
From the seductress who flatters with her
words,
Who forsakes the companion of her youth,
And forgets the covenant of her God.
For her house leads down to death,
And her paths to the dead;
None who go to her return,
Nor do they regain the paths of life—
So you may walk in the way of goodness,
And keep to the paths of righteousness.
For the upright will dwell in the land,
And the blameless will remain in it;
But the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
And the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.

3:13-18

Happy is the man who finds wisdom,
And the man who gains understanding;
For her proceeds are better than the profits of
silver,
And her gain than fine gold.
She is more precious than rubies,
And all the things you may desire cannot
compare with her.
Length of days is in her right hand,
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 are all who retain her.

4:6-9

Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you;
 Love her, and she will keep you.
 Wisdom is the principal thing;
 Therefore get wisdom.
 And in 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.”

Ch.8

Does not wisdom cry out,
 And understanding lift up her voice?
 She takes her stand on the top of the high hill,
 Beside the way, where the paths meet.
 She cries out by 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 ones, understand prudence,
 And you fools, be of an understanding heart.
 Listen, for I will speak of excellent things,
 And from the opening of my lips will come
 right things;
 For my mouth will speak truth:
 Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
 All the words of my mouth are with
 righteousness:
 Nothing crooked or perverse is 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 one may desire cannot be
 compared with her.
 “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 rulers decree justice.
 By me princes rule, and nobles,
 All the judges of the earth.
 I love those who love me,
 And those who seek me diligently will find me.
 Riches and honor are with me,
 Enduring riches and righteousness.
 My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold,
 And my revenue than choice silver.
 I traverse the way of righteousness,
 In the midst of the paths of justice,
 That I may cause those who love me to inherit
 wealth,

That I may fill their treasuries.
 “The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His
 way,
 Before His works of old.
 I have been established 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 primal 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 assigned to the sea its limit,
 So that the waters would not transgress His
 command,
 When He marked out the foundations of the
 earth,
 Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman;
 And I was daily His delight,
 Rejoicing always before Him,
 Rejoicing in His inhabited world,
 And my delight was with the sons of men.
 “Now therefore, listen to me, my children,
 For blessed are those who keep my ways.
 Hear instruction and be wise,
 And do not disdain it.
 Blessed is the man who listens to me,
 Watching daily at my gates,
 Waiting at the posts of my doors.
 For whoever finds me finds life,
 And obtains favor from the LORD;
 But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul;
 All those who hate me love death.”

Ch.9

Wisdom has built her house,
 She has hewn out her seven pillars;
 She has slaughtered her meat,
 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 lacks understanding, she says
 to him,
 “Come, eat of my bread
 And drink of the wine I have mixed.
 Forsake foolishness and live,
 And go in the way of understanding.

“He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself,
And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself.

Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you;

Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still 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 years of life will be added to you.

If you are wise, you are wise for yourself,

And if you scoff, you will bear it alone.”

A foolish woman is clamorous;

She is simple, and knows nothing.

For she sits at the door of her house,

On a seat by the highest places of the city,

To call to those who pass by,

Who go straight on their way:

“Whoever is simple, let him turn in here”;

And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him,

“Stolen water is sweet,

And bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”

But he does not know that the dead are there,

That her guests are in the depths of hell.

Exhortation to seek wisdom, and listen to counsel and instruction

1:8,9

My son, hear the instruction of your father,

And do not forsake the law of your mother;

For they will be a graceful ornament on your head,

And chains about your neck.

2:1-9

My son, if you receive my words,

And treasure my commands within you,

So that you incline your ear to wisdom,

And apply your heart to understanding;

Yes, if you cry out for discernment,

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;

From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;

He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;

He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;

He guards the paths of justice,

And preserves the way of His saints.

Then you will understand righteousness and justice,

Equity and every good path.

3:1-4

My son, do not forget my law,

But let your heart keep my commands;

For length of days and long life

And peace they will add to you.

Let not mercy and truth forsake you;

Bind them around your neck,

Write them on the tablet of your heart,

And so find favor and high esteem

In the sight of God and man.

3:21-24

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.

4:1-5

Hear, my children, the instruction of a father,

And give attention to know understanding;

For I give you good doctrine:

Do not forsake my law.

When I was my father's son,

Tender and the only one in the sight of my

mother,

He also taught me, and said to me:

“Let your heart retain my words;

Keep my commands, and live.

Get wisdom! Get understanding!

Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

4:10-13

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 go;

Keep her, for she is your life.

4:20-22

My son, give attention 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 flesh.

5:1,2

My son, pay attention to my wisdom;
Lend your ear to my understanding,
That you may preserve discretion,
And your lips may keep knowledge.

6:20-23

My son, keep your father's command,
And do not forsake the law of your mother.
Bind them continually upon your heart;
Tie them around your neck.
When you roam, 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 a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
To keep you from the evil woman,
From the flattering tongue of a seductress.

Family

Several passages are addressed to "my son" in this section - 1:8,10,15; 2:1; 3:1,11,21; 4:3,10,20; 5:1,20; 6:1,3,20; 7:1; 8:4,31. This may be a literal family relationship, or a phrase symbolising the relationship between a mentor and his student.

*An Immoral Woman / Adulteress:***5:1-23**

My son, pay attention to my wisdom;
Lend your ear to my understanding,
That you may preserve discretion,
And your lips may keep knowledge.
For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey,
And her mouth is smoother than oil;
But in the end she is bitter as wormwood,
Sharp as a two-edged sword.
Her feet go down to death,
Her steps lay hold of hell.
Lest you ponder her path of life—
Her ways are unstable;
You do not know them.
Therefore hear me now, my 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 one;
Lest aliens be filled with your wealth,
And your labors go to the house of a foreigner;
And you mourn at last,
When your flesh and your body are consumed,
And say:
"How I have hated instruction,

And my heart despised correction!
I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers,
Nor inclined my ear to those who instructed
me!
I was on the verge of total ruin,
In the midst of the assembly and
congregation."
Drink water from your own cistern,
And running water from 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.
As a loving deer and a graceful doe,
Let her breasts satisfy you at all times;
And always be enraptured with her love.
For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an
immoral woman,
And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?
For the ways of man are before the eyes of the
LORD,
And He ponders all his paths.
His own iniquities entrap the wicked man,
And he is caught in the cords of his sin.
He shall die for lack of instruction,
And in the greatness of his folly he shall go
astray.

6:20-7:27

My son, keep your father's command,
And do not forsake the law of your mother.
Bind them continually upon your heart;
Tie them around your neck.
When you roam, 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 a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
To keep you from the evil woman,
From the flattering 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 crust of bread;
And an adulteress will prey upon his precious
life.
Can a man take fire to his bosom,
And his clothes not be burned?
Can one walk on hot coals,
And his feet not be seared?
So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife;
Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.
People do not despise a thief
If he steals to satisfy himself when he is
starving.

Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold;
 He may have to give up all the substance of his house.
 Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding;
 He who does so destroys his own soul.
 Wounds and dishonor he will get,
 And his reproach will not be wiped away.
 For jealousy is a husband's fury;
 Therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.
 He will accept no recompense,
 Nor will he be appeased though you give many gifts.
 My son, keep my words,
 And treasure my commands within you.
 Keep my commands and live,
 And my law 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 nearest kin,
 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 lattice,
 And saw among the simple,
 I perceived among the youths,
 A young man devoid of understanding,
 Passing along the street near her corner;
 And he took the path 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 a crafty heart.
 She was loud and rebellious,
 Her feet would not stay at home.
 At times she was outside, at times in the open square,
 Lurking at every corner.
 So she caught him and kissed him;
 With an impudent face she said to him:
 "I have peace offerings with me;
 Today I have paid my vows.
 So I came out to meet you,
 Diligently to seek your face,
 And I have found you.
 I have spread my bed with tapestry,
 Colored coverings of Egyptian linen.
 I have perfumed my bed
 With myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.
 Come, let us take our fill of love until morning;
 Let us delight 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 on the appointed day."

With her enticing speech she caused him to yield,
 With her flattering lips she seduced him.
 Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter,
 Or as a fool to the correction of the stocks,
 Till an arrow struck his liver.
 As a bird hastens to the snare,
 He did not know it would cost his life.
 Now therefore, listen to me, my children;
 Pay attention to the words of my mouth:
 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways,
 Do not stray into her paths;
 For she has cast down many wounded,
 And all who were slain by her were strong men.
 Her house is the way to hell,
 Descending to the chambers of death.

The LORD / God

2:1-9

My son, if you receive my words,
 And treasure my commands within you,
 So that you incline your ear to wisdom,
 And apply your heart to understanding;
 Yes, if you cry out for discernment,
 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;
 From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;
 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
 He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;
 He guards the paths of justice,
 And preserves the way of His saints.
 Then you will understand righteousness and justice,
 Equity and every good path.

3:1-12

My son, do not forget my law,
 But let your heart keep my commands;
 For length of days and long life
 And peace they will add to you.
 Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
 Bind them around your neck,
 Write them on the tablet of your heart,
 And so find favor and high esteem
 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 shall direct your paths.
 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
 Fear the LORD and depart from evil.
 It will be health to your flesh,

And strength to your bones.
Honor the LORD with your possessions,
And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
So your barns will be filled with plenty,
And your vats will overflow with new wine.
My son, do not despise the chastening of the
LORD,
Nor detest His correction;
For whom the LORD loves He corrects,
Just as a father the son in whom he delights.

3:19,20

The LORD by wisdom founded the earth;
By understanding He established the heavens;
By His knowledge the depths were broken up,
And clouds drop down the dew.

3:25,26

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.

6:16-19

These six things the LORD hates,
Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:
A proud look,
A lying tongue,
Hands that shed innocent blood,
A heart that devises wicked plans,
Feet that are swift in running to evil,
A false witness who speaks lies,
And one who sows discord among brethren.

5:21-23

For the ways of man are before the eyes of the
LORD,
And He ponders all his paths.
His own iniquities entrap the wicked man,
And he is caught in the cords of his sin.
He shall die for lack of instruction,
And in the greatness of his folly he shall go
astray.

8:22-31

“The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His
way,
Before His works of old.
I have been established 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 primal 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 assigned to the sea its limit,
So that the waters would not transgress His
command,
When He marked out the foundations of the
earth,
Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman;
And I was daily His delight,
Rejoicing always before Him,
Rejoicing in His inhabited world,
And my delight was with the sons of men.

The Fear of the LORD

(1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
knowledge,
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.)

1:29,30

Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,
They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.

2:3-5

Yes, if you cry out for discernment,
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.

3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

8:12,13

“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.

9:10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is
understanding.

**The Righteous & Right / The Wicked &
Wickedness**

1:10-19

My son, if sinners entice you,
Do not consent.
If they say, "Come with us,
Let us lie in wait to shed blood;
Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without
cause;
Let us swallow them alive like Sheol,
And whole, like those who go down to the Pit;
We shall find all kinds of precious possessions,
We shall 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 they make haste to shed blood.
Surely, in vain the net is spread
In the sight of any bird;
But they lie in wait for their own blood,
They lurk secretly for their own lives.
So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for
gain;
It takes away the life of its owners.

2:10-22

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 evil,
From the man who speaks perverse things,
From those who leave the paths of uprightness
To walk in the ways of darkness;
Who rejoice in doing 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,
From the seductress who flatters with her
words,
Who forsakes the companion of her youth,
And forgets the covenant of her God.
For her house leads down to death,
And her paths to the dead;
None who go to her return,
Nor do they regain the paths of life—
So you may walk in the way of goodness,
And keep to the paths of righteousness.
For the upright will dwell in the land,
And the blameless will remain in it;
But the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
And the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.

3:27-35

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is
due,
When it is in the power of your hand to do so.
Do not say to your neighbor,
"Go, and come back,
And tomorrow I will give it,"
When you have it with you.
Do not devise evil against your neighbor,
For he dwells by you for safety's sake.
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 person is an abomination to the
LORD,
But His secret counsel is with the upright.
The curse of the LORD is on the house of the
wicked,
But He blesses the home of the just.
Surely He scorns the scornful,
But gives grace to the humble.
The wise shall inherit glory,
But shame shall be the legacy of fools.

4:14-19

Do not enter the path of the wicked,
And do not walk in the way of evil.
Avoid it, do not travel on it;
Turn away from it and pass on.
For they do not sleep unless they have done evil;
And their sleep is taken away unless they
make someone fall.
For they eat the bread of wickedness,
And drink the wine of violence.
But the path of the just is like the shining sun,
That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.
The way of the wicked is like darkness;
They do not know what makes them stumble.

4:23-27

Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it spring the issues of life.
Put away from you a deceitful mouth,
And put perverse lips far from you.
Let your eyes look straight ahead,
And your eyelids look right before you.
Ponder the path of your feet,
And let all your ways be established.
Do not turn to the right or the left;
Remove your foot from evil.

6:12-15

A worthless person, a wicked man,
Walks with a perverse mouth;
He winks with his eyes,
He shuffles his feet,
He points with his fingers;
Perversity is in his heart,

He devises evil continually,
He sows discord.
Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly;
Suddenly he shall be broken without remedy.

8:6-8

Listen, for I will speak of excellent things,
And from the opening of my lips will come
right things;
For my mouth will speak truth:
Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
All the words of my mouth are with
righteousness;
Nothing crooked or perverse is in them.

The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness

5:21-23

For the ways of man are before the eyes of the
LORD,
And He ponders all his paths.
His own iniquities entrap the wicked man,
And he is caught in the cords of his sin.
He shall die for lack of instruction,
And in the greatness of his folly he shall go
astray.

9:7-9

“He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself,
And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms
himself.
Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you;
Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.
Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be
still wiser;
Teach a just man, and he will increase in
learning.

9:12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself,
And if you scoff, you will bear it alone.

9:13-18 (NIV)

Folly is an unruly woman;
she is simple and knows nothing.
She sits at the door of her house,
on a seat at the highest point of the city,
calling out to those who pass by,
who go straight on their way,
“Let all who are simple come to my house!”
To those who have no sense she says,
“Stolen water is sweet;
food eaten in secret is delicious!”
But little do they know that the dead are there,
that her guests are deep in the realm of the
dead.

Wealth

3:9,10

Honor the LORD with your possessions,
And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
So your barns will be filled with plenty,
And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Work Ethic

6:6-11

Go to the ant, you sluggard!
Consider her ways and be wise,
Which, having no captain,
Overseer or ruler,
Provides her supplies in the summer,
And gathers her food in the harvest.
How long will you slumber, O sluggard?
When will you rise from your sleep?
A little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to sleep—
So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler,
And your need like an armed man.

The Heart: what one feels and thinks
- also including spirit, when used of one's attitude

2:2 (portion) apply your heart to understanding ...

2:10-12a

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 evil

3:1 My son, do not forget my law,
But let your heart keep my commands

3:3,4

Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
Bind them around your neck,
Write them on the tablet of your heart,
And so find favor and high esteem
In the sight of God and man.

3:5,6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.

4:4 [My father] also taught me, and said to me:
“Let your heart retain my words;
Keep my commands, and live.”

4:20-23

My son, give attention 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 flesh.
 Keep your heart with all diligence,
 For out of it spring the issues of life.

5:7,12 Therefore hear me now, my children,
 And do not depart from the words of my mouth.
 ... [Lest you say,] "How I have hated instruction,
 And my heart despised correction!"

6:12,14

A worthless person, a wicked man ...
 Perversity is in his heart,
 He devises evil continually,
 He sows discord.

6:16,18 The LORD hates ...
 A heart that devises wicked plans

6:20,21

My son, keep your father's command,
 And do not forsake the law of your mother.
 Bind them continually upon your heart;
 Tie them around your neck.

7:1-3

My son, keep my words,
 And treasure my commands within you.
 Keep my commands and live,
 And my law as the apple of your eye.
 Bind them on your fingers;
 Write them on the tablet of your heart.

7:10,25

[An immoral woman with] a crafty heart ...
 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways,
 Do not stray into her paths

8:5 O you simple ones, understand prudence,
 And you fools, be of an understanding heart.

A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.**3:21-26**

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.

4:10-12

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.

4:23-27

Keep your heart with all diligence,
 For out of it spring the issues of life.
 Put away from you a deceitful mouth,
 And put perverse lips far from you.
 Let your eyes look straight ahead,
 And your eyelids look right before you.
 Ponder the path of your feet,
 And let all your ways be established.
 Do not turn to the right or the left;
 Remove your foot from evil.

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken**6:16-19**

These six things the LORD hates,
 Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:
 A proud look,
 A lying tongue,
 Hands that shed innocent blood,
 A heart that devises wicked plans,
 Feet that are swift in running to evil,
 A false witness who speaks lies,
 And one who sows discord among brethren.

Miscellaneous / Unsure**6:1-5 Surety for a friend**

My son, if you become surety for your friend,
 If you have shaken hands in pledge for a
 stranger,
 You are snared by the words of your mouth;
 You are taken by the words of your mouth.
 So do this, my son, and deliver yourself;
 For 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 like a gazelle from the hand of
 the hunter,
 And like a bird from the hand of the fowler.

10:1 to 22:16
Proverbs of Solomon

**The virtues of instruction, knowledge,
understanding, wisdom**

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.

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

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

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

13:16 Every prudent man acts with knowledge,
But a fool lays open his folly.

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

14:18 The simple inherit folly,
But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

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

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

16:22 Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it.
But the correction of fools is folly.

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

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

18:2 A fool has no delight in understanding,
But in expressing his own heart.

19:2 Also it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge,
And he sins who hastens with his feet.

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

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

*Exhortation to seek wisdom, and listen to counsel
and instruction*

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

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

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

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

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

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

13:14 The law of the wise is a fountain of life,
To turn one away from the snares of death.

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

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

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.

15:14 The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge,
But the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

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

15:31-33 The ear that hears the rebukes of life
Will abide among the wise.
He who disdains instruction despises his own soul,
But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.

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

16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good,
And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.

18:15 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge,
And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

Family

10:1 The proverbs of Solomon:

10:1 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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

18:19 A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city,
And contentions are like the bars of a castle.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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.

An Immoral Woman / Adulteress:

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

The LORD / God

10:27-29

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 for the upright,
But destruction will come to the workers of
iniquity.

11:20,21

Those who are of a perverse heart are an
abomination to the LORD,
But the blameless in their ways are His
delight.
Though they join forces, the wicked will not go
unpunished;
But the posterity of the righteous will be
delivered.

12:2 A good man obtains favor from the LORD,
But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.

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.

16:3 Commit your works to the LORD,
And your thoughts will be established.

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.

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

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.

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

16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find
good,
And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.

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.

17:5 He who mocks the poor reproaches his
Maker;

He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

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.

19:3 The foolishness of a man twists his way,
And his heart frets against 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.

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

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.

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

22:12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge,
But He overthrows the words of the faithless.

The Fear of the LORD:

10:27 The fear of the LORD prolongs days,
But the years of the wicked will be shortened.

14:2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD,
But he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.

14:26 In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence,
And His children will have a place of refuge.

14:27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,
To turn one away from the snares of death.

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

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

15:33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom,
And before honor is humility.

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

19:23 The fear of the LORD leads to life,
And he who has it will abide in satisfaction;
He will not be visited with evil.

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

The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness

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

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

10:6 Blessings are on the head of the righteous,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

10:7 The memory of the righteous is blessed,
But the name of the wicked will rot.

10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a well of life,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

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

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

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

10:24 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.

10:27 The fear of the LORD prolongs days,
But the years of the wicked will be shortened.

10:28 The hope of the righteous will be gladness,
But the expectation of the wicked will perish.

10:29 The way of the LORD is strength for the
upright,
But destruction will come to the workers of
iniquity.

10:30 The righteous will never be removed,
But the wicked will not inhabit the earth.

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.

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

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

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.

11:7 When a wicked man dies, his expectation
will perish,
And the hope of the unjust perishes.

11:8 The righteous is delivered from trouble,
And it comes to the wicked instead.

11:9 The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his
neighbor,
But through knowledge the righteous will be
delivered.

11:10 When it goes well with the righteous, the
city rejoices;
And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.

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

11:16 A gracious woman retains honor,
But ruthless men retain riches.

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.

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

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

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

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

11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
And he who wins souls is wise.

11:31 If the righteous will be recompensed on the
earth,
How much more the ungodly and the sinner.

12:2 A good man obtains favor from the LORD,
But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.

12:3 A man is not established by wickedness,
But the root of the righteous cannot be moved.

12:5 The thoughts of the righteous are right,
But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.

12:6 The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for blood,"
But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.

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.

12:10 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.

12:13 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

15:8 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.

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

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

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

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

16:12 It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness,
For a throne is established by righteousness.

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 A violent man entices his neighbor,
And leads him in a way that is not good.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

21:7 The violence of the wicked will destroy them,
Because they refuse to do justice.

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

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

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

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

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

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

21:25 The desire of the lazy man kills him,
For his hands refuse to labor.

21:26 He covets greedily all day long,
But the righteous gives and does not spare.

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

21:29 A wicked man hardens his face,
But as for the upright, he establishes his way.

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

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

The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness

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

10:10 He who winks with the eye causes trouble,
But a prating fool will fall.

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

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.

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

11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
And he who wins souls is wise.

12:8 A man will be commended according to his
wisdom,
But he who is of a perverse heart will be
despised.

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

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

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.

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

14:16 A wise man fears and departs from evil,
But a fool rages and is self-confident.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

17:12 Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs,
Rather than a fool in his folly.

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.

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

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.

18:15 The heart of the prudent acquires
knowledge,
And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

19:3 The foolishness of a man twists his way,
And his heart frets against the LORD.

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

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

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

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

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

21:22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty,
And brings down the trusted stronghold.

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

Wealth

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

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

11:16 A gracious woman retains honor,
But ruthless men retain riches.

11:24-26

There is one who scatters, yet increases more;
And there is one who withholds more than is right,
But it leads to poverty.
The generous soul will be made rich,
And he who waters will also be watered himself.
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.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19:7 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

10:26 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.

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

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

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

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

14:24 The crown of the wise is their riches,
But the foolishness of fools is folly.

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.

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

21:25 The desire of the lazy man kills him,
For his hands refuse to labor.

21:26 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!"

The Heart: what one feels and thinks
- also including spirit, when used of one's attitude

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

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

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

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

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

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

15:14 The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge,
But the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

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

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

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18:15 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge,
And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

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

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

A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.

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.

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

12:26 As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes,
So is the lazy man to those who send him.

12:28 The hope of the righteous will be gladness,
But the expectation of the wicked will perish.

14:2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD,
But he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.

14:17 A quick-tempered man acts foolishly,
And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

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

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

15:24 The way of life winds upward for the wise,
That he may turn away from hell below.

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

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

16:17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil;
He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

19:2 Also it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge,
And he sins who hastens with his feet.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

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

10:10 He who winks with the eye causes trouble,
But a prating fool will fall.

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.

12:6 The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for
blood,"
But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.

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.

12:23 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.

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 A violent man entices his neighbor,
And leads him in a way that is not good.

16:30 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.

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

22:12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge,
But He overthrows the words of the faithless.

Miscellaneous

The King:

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.

16:14 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.

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

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

Scales & Weights:

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

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.
Surety:

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

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

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

Gifts:

17:8 A man devoid of understanding shakes
hands in a pledge,
And becomes surety for his friend.

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

19:6 Many entreat the favor of the nobility,
And every man is a friend to one who gives gifts.

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

Various:

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

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

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

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

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

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

18:18 Casting lots causes contentions to cease,
And keeps the mighty apart.

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

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

22:17 to 24:22

Thirty Sayings of the Wise

*This section of the book of Proverbs is often
divided into thirty sections.*

*Sayings numbers (e.g. Saying 14) below are
based on divisions found in the NIV.*

22:17a Incline your ear and hear the words of the
wise ...

**The virtues of instruction, knowledge,
understanding, wisdom**

23:15,16 (Saying 14)
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.

24:3,4 (Saying 21)
Through wisdom a house is built,
And by understanding it is established;
By knowledge the rooms are filled
With all precious and pleasant riches.

*Exhortation to seek wisdom, and listen to counsel
and instruction*

22:17-21 (Saying 1)
Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise,
And apply your heart to my knowledge;
For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within
you;
Let them all be fixed upon your lips,
So that your trust may be in the LORD;
I have instructed you today, even you.
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?

23:12 (Saying 12)
Apply your heart to instruction,
And your ears to words of knowledge.

23:23 (Saying 17 – portion)
Buy the truth, and do not sell it,
Also wisdom and instruction and
understanding.

24:5,6 (Saying 22)
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.

24:13,14 (Saying 26)
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.

Family

23:13,14 (Saying 13)
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 [i.e. death]

23:22 (Saying 17 – portion)
Listen to your father who begot you,
And do not despise your mother when she is
old.

23:24,25 (Saying 17 – portion)
The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice,
And he who begets a wise child will delight in
him.
Let your father and your mother be glad,
And let her who bore you rejoice.

An Immoral Woman / Adulteress:

23:26-28 (Saying 18)
My son, give me your heart
and let your eyes delight in my ways,
for an adulterous woman is a deep pit,
and a wayward wife is a narrow well.
Like a bandit she lies in wait
and multiplies the unfaithful among men.

The LORD / God

22:17-19a (Saying 1 portion)
Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise,
And apply your heart to my knowledge;
For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within
you;
Let them all be fixed upon your lips,
So that your trust may be in the LORD

22:22,23 (Saying 2)
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.

23:10,11 (Saying 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.

24:10-12 (Saying 25)
If you faint in the day of adversity,
Your strength is small.
Deliver those who are drawn toward death,
And hold back those stumbling to the
slaughter.
If you say, "Surely we did not know this,"
Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it?
He who keeps your soul, does He not know it?
And will He not render to each man according
to his deeds?

24:17,18 (Saying 28)

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.

The Fear of the LORD:

23:17,18 (Saying 15)

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.

24:21,22 (Saying 30)

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

The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness

23:24,25 (Saying 17 portion)

The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice,
And he who begets a wise child will delight in
him.
Let your father and your mother be glad,
And let her who bore you rejoice.

24:1,2 (Saying 20)

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

24:8,9 (Saying 24)

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

24:15,16 (Saying 27)

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.

24:19,20 (Saying 29)

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.

The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness

23:9 (Saying 10)

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

24:7 (Saying 23)

Wisdom is too lofty for a fool;
He does not open his mouth in the gate.

24:8,9 (Saying 24)

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

Wealth

22:22,23 (Saying 2)

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.

22:26,27 (Saying 4)

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 (Saying 8)

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.

Work Ethic

22:29 (Saying 6)

Do you see a man who excels in his work?
He will stand before kings;
He will not stand before unknown men.

23:4,5 (Saying 8)

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.

The Heart: what one feels and thinks
- also including spirit, when used of one's attitude

23:15,16 (Saying 14)

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.

23:17,18 (Saying 15)

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.

23:19-21 (Saying 16)

Hear, my son, and be wise;
And guide your heart in the way.
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.

23:26 (Saying 18 portion)

My son, give me your heart,
And let your eyes observe my ways.

24:1,2 (Saying 20)

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

24:10-12 (Saying 25)

If you faint in the day of adversity,
Your strength is small.
Deliver those who are drawn toward death,
And hold back those stumbling to the
slaughter.
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?

A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.

22:24,25 (Saying 3)

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.

23:19-21 (Saying 16)

Hear, my son, and be wise;
And guide your heart in the way.
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.

23:29-35 (Saying 19)

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.
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?"

24:12b (Saying 25 portion)

He who keeps your soul, does He not know it?
And will He not render to each man according
to his deeds?

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

23:9 (Saying 10)

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

23:15,16 (Saying 14)

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.

24:1,2 (Saying 20)

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

24:7 (Saying 23)

Wisdom is too lofty for a fool;
He does not open his mouth in the gate.

Miscellaneous

Ancient landmarks/boundaries:

22:28 (Saying 5)
Do not remove the ancient landmark
Which your fathers have set.

23:10,11 (Saying 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.

Eating:

23:1-3 (Saying 7)
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 (Saying 9)
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.

Surety:

22:26,27 (Saying 4)
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?

24:23-34

More Sayings of the Wise

24:23a These things also belong to the wise:

The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness

24:23-25
It is not good to show partiality in judgment.
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.

Wealth & Work Ethic

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.

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

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.”

24:26

He who gives a right answer kisses the lips.

Chs. 25 to 29

More Proverbs of Solomon

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

The virtues of instruction, knowledge, understanding, wisdom

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.

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

Exhortation to seek wisdom, and listen to counsel and instruction:

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

28:4 Those who forsake the law praise the wicked,
But such as keep the law contend with them.
(NIV: Those who forsake instruction praise the wicked,
but those who heed it resist them.)

28:7 Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son,
But a companion of gluttons shames his father.
(NIV: A discerning son heeds instruction,
but a companion of gluttons disgraces his father.)

28:9 One who turns away his ear from hearing the law,
Even his prayer is an abomination.
(NIV: If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction,
even their prayers are detestable.)

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.

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

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

Family

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

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.

27:15,16 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.

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

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

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

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

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

29:21 He who pampers his servant from childhood
Will have him as a son in the end.
(NIV: A servant pampered from youth
will turn out to be insolent.)

The LORD / God

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

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.

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

28:25 He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife,
But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered.

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

29:25 The fear of man brings a snare,
But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

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

The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness

25:5 Take away the wicked from before the king,
And his throne will be established in
righteousness.

25:26 A righteous man who falters before the
wicked
Is like a murky spring and a polluted well.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

28:17 A man burdened with bloodshed will flee
into a pit;
Let no one help him.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness

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

26:3-12

A whip for the horse,

A bridle for the donkey,

And a rod for the fool's back.

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.

He who sends a message by the hand of a fool
Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence.

Like the legs of the lame that hang limp
Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

Like one who binds a stone in a sling
Is he who gives honor to a fool.

Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a
drunkard

Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

The great God who formed everything

Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his
wages.

As a dog returns to his own vomit,
So a fool repeats his folly.

Do you see a man wise in his own eyes?

There is more hope for a fool than for him.

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

27:3 A stone is heavy and sand is weighty,
But a fool's wrath is heavier than both of them.

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

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.

28:26 He who trusts in his own heart is a fool,
But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

28:3 Whoever loves wisdom makes his father
rejoice,
But a companion of harlots wastes his wealth.

28:8 Scoffers set a city aflame,
But wise men turn away wrath.

28:9 If a wise man contends with a foolish man,
Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no
peace.

28:11 A fool vents all his feelings,
But a wise man holds them back.

Wealth

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.

28:3 A poor man who oppresses the poor
Is like a driving rain which leaves no food.

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

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

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

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

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

28:20 A faithful man will abound with blessings,
But he who hastens to be rich will not go
unpunished.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

Work Ethic

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!

The Heart: what one feels and thinks
- also including spirit, when used of one's attitude

25:3 As the heavens for height and the earth for
depth,
So the heart of kings is unsearchable.

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

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

28:25 He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife,
But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered.

A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.

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

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.

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

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!"

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

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

27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend,
But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

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.

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

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

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

28:26 He who trusts in his own heart is a fool,
But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

25:11,12

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold
In settings of silver.
Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine
gold
Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

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.

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

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

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

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.

25:21,22

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.

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

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

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

26:4-7

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.
He who sends a message by the hand of a fool
Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence.
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.

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!"

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

26:20-22

Where there is no wood, the fire goes out;
And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.
As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire,
So is a contentious man to kindle strife.
The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles,
And they go down into the inmost body.

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.

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

27:9 Ointment and perfume delight the heart,
And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight
by hearty counsel.

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.

27:23 He who rebukes a man will find more favor
afterward
Than he who flatters with the tongue.

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

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

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

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.

Miscellaneous / Unsure

*King(s) and their heart, wisdom, throne, honour
& justice:*

25:2-7

It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.
As the heavens for height and the earth for
depth,
So the heart of kings is unsearchable.
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.
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.

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

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

Masters and servants:

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

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

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

Various:

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.

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

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.

27:13 Take the garment of him who is surety for
a stranger,
And hold it in pledge when he is surety for a
seductress.
(NIV: Take the garment of one who puts up
security for a stranger;
hold it in pledge if it is done for an outsider.)

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

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

28:14 Happy is the man who is always reverent,
But he who hardens his heart will fall into
calamity.

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

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

Ch. 30 Sayings of Agur

30:1 The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, his
utterance. This man declared to Ithiel—to Ithiel
and Ucal:

[30:1 NIV: The sayings of Agur son of Jakeh—an
inspired utterance. This man's utterance to
Ithiel: "I am weary, God, but I can prevail."]

The virtues of instruction, knowledge, understanding, wisdom

30:2,3

Surely I am more stupid than any man,
And do not have the understanding of a man.
I neither learned wisdom
Nor have knowledge of the Holy One.

Family

30:11-13

There is a generation that curses its father,
And does not bless its mother.
There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes,
Yet is not washed from its filthiness.
There is a generation—oh, how lofty are their
eyes!
And their eyelids are lifted up.

30:17

The eye that mocks his father,
And scorns obedience to his mother,
The ravens of the valley will pick it out,
And the young eagles will eat it.

30:21-23

For three things the earth is perturbed,
Yes, for four it cannot bear up:
For a servant when he reigns,
A fool when he is filled with food,
A hateful woman when she is married,
And a maidservant who succeeds her mistress.
An Immoral Woman / Adulteress

30:20

This is the way of an adulterous woman:
She eats and wipes her mouth,
And says, "I have done no wickedness."

The LORD / God

30:2-9

Surely I am more stupid than any man,
And do not have the understanding of a man.
I neither learned wisdom
Nor have knowledge of the Holy One.
Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?
Who has gathered the wind in His fists?
Who has bound the waters in a garment?
Who has established all the ends of the earth?
What is His name, and what is His Son's name,
If you know?
Every word of God is pure;
He is a shield to those who put their trust in
Him.
Do not add to His words,
Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.
Two things I request of You
(Deprive me not before I die):
Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
Give me neither poverty nor riches—
Feed me with the food allotted to me;
Lest I be full and deny You,
And say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I be poor and steal,
And profane the name of my God.

The Righteous & Right / The Wicked & Wickedness

30:11-14

There is a generation that curses its father,
And does not bless its mother.
There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes,
Yet is not washed from its filthiness.
There is a generation—oh, how lofty are their
eyes!
And their eyelids are lifted up.
There is a generation whose teeth are like
swords,
And whose fangs are like knives,
To devour the poor from off the earth,
And the needy from among men.

30:32,33

If you have been foolish in exalting yourself,
Or if you have devised evil, put your hand on
your mouth.
For as the churning of milk produces butter,
And wringing the nose produces blood,
So the forcing of wrath produces strife.

The Wise & Wisdom / The Fool & Foolishness

30:7-9

Two things I request of You
(Deprive me not before I die):
Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
Give me neither poverty nor riches—

Feed me with the food allotted to me;
Lest I be full and deny You,
And say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I be poor and steal,
And profane the name of my God.

30:21-23

For three things the earth is perturbed,
Yes, for four it cannot bear up:
For a servant when he reigns,
A fool when he is filled with food,
A hateful woman when she is married,
And a maidservant who succeeds her mistress.

30:24-28

There are four things which are little on the
earth,
But they are exceedingly wise:
The ants are a people not strong,
Yet they prepare their food in the summer;
The rock badgers are a feeble folk,
Yet they make their homes in the crags;
The locusts have no king,
Yet they all advance in ranks;
The spider skillfully grasps with its hands,
And it is in kings' palaces.

30:32,33

If you have been foolish in exalting yourself,
Or if you have devised evil, put your hand on
your mouth.
For as the churning of milk produces butter,
And wringing the nose produces blood,
So the forcing of wrath produces strife.

Wealth

30:7-9

Two things I request of You
(Deprive me not before I die):
Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
Give me neither poverty nor riches—
Feed me with the food allotted to me;
Lest I be full and deny You,
And say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I be poor and steal,
And profane the name of my God.

30:14

There is a generation whose teeth are like
swords,
And whose fangs are like knives,
To devour the poor from off the earth,
And the needy from among men.

30:21-23

For three things the earth is perturbed,
Yes, for four it cannot bear up:
For a servant when he reigns,
A fool when he is filled with food,
A hateful woman when she is married,
And a maidservant who succeeds her mistress.

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

30:5,6

Every word of God is pure;
He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.
Do not add to His words,
Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

30:7-9

Two things I request of You
(Deprive me not before I die):
Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
Give me neither poverty nor riches—
Feed me with the food allotted to me;
Lest I be full and deny You,
And say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I be poor and steal,
And profane the name of my God.

30:10 Do not malign a servant to his master,
Lest he curse you, and you be found guilty.

30:32,33

If you have been foolish in exalting yourself,
Or if you have devised evil, put your hand on your mouth.
For as the churning of milk produces butter,
And wringing the nose produces blood,
So the forcing of wrath produces strife.

Miscellaneous / Unsure

30:15,16

The leech has two daughters—
Give and Give!
There are three things that are never satisfied,
Four never say, "Enough!":
The grave,
The barren womb,
The earth that is not satisfied with water—
And the fire never says, "Enough!"

30:18,19

There are three things which are too wonderful for me,
Yes, four which I do not understand:
The way of an eagle in the air,
The way of a serpent on a rock,
The way of a ship in the midst of the sea,
And the way of a man with a virgin.

30:29-31

There are three things which are majestic in pace,
Yes, four which are stately in walk:
A lion, which is mighty among beasts
And does not turn away from any;

A greyhound,
A male goat also,
And a king whose troops are with him.

31:1-9

Sayings of King Lemuel

31:1 The words of King Lemuel, the utterance which his mother taught him:

Behaviour appropriate for a king

31:2-9

What, my son?
And what, son of my womb?
And what, son of my vows?
Do not give your strength to women,
Nor your ways to that which destroys kings.
It is not for kings, O Lemuel,
It is not for kings to drink wine,
Nor for princes intoxicating drink;
Lest they drink and forget the law,
And pervert the justice of all the afflicted.
Give strong drink to him who is perishing,
And wine to those who are bitter of heart.
Let him drink and forget his poverty,
And remember his misery no more.
Open your mouth for the speechless,
In the cause of all who are appointed to die.
Open your mouth, judge righteously,
And plead the cause of the poor and needy.

31:10-31

The Wife of Noble Character

Family

31:10-31 (entire section, a Hebrew acrostic)

Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.
The heart of her husband safely trusts her;
So he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good and not evil
All the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax,
And willingly works with her hands.
She is like the merchant ships,
She brings her food from afar.
She also rises while it is yet night,
And provides food for her household,
And a portion for her maidservants.
She considers a field and buys it;
From her profits she plants a vineyard.
She girds herself with strength,
And strengthens her arms.

She perceives that her merchandise is good,
 And her lamp does not go out by night.
 She stretches out her hands to the distaff,
 And her hand holds the spindle.
 She extends her hand to the poor,
 Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.
 She is not afraid of snow for her household,
 For all her household is clothed with scarlet.
 She makes tapestry for herself;
 Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
 Her husband is known in the gates,
 When he sits among the elders of the land.
 She makes linen garments and sells them,
 And supplies sashes for the merchants.
 Strength and honor are her clothing;
 She shall rejoice in time to come.
 She opens her mouth with wisdom,
 And on her tongue is the law of kindness.
 She watches over the ways of her household,
 And does not eat the bread of idleness.
 Her children rise up and call her blessed;
 Her husband also, and he praises her:
 "Many daughters have done well,
 But you excel them all."
 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing,
 But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be
 praised.
 Give her of the fruit of her hands,
 And let her own works praise her in the gates.

The LORD / God

The Fear of the LORD

31:30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing,
 But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be
 praised.

Wealth

31:20,21
 She extends her hand to the poor,
 Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.
 She is not afraid of snow for her household,
 For all her household is clothed with scarlet.

Work Ethic

31:13-19
 She seeks wool and flax,
 And willingly works with her hands.
 She is like the merchant ships,
 She brings her food from afar.
 She also rises while it is yet night,

And provides food for her household,
 And a portion for her maidservants.
 She considers a field and buys it;
 From her profits she plants a vineyard.
 She girds herself with strength,
 And strengthens her arms.
 She perceives that her merchandise is good,
 And her lamp does not go out by night.
 She stretches out her hands to the distaff,
 And her hand holds the spindle.

31:27 She watches over the ways of her
 household,
 And does not eat the bread of idleness.

The Heart: what one feels and thinks
- also including spirit, when used of one's attitude

31:11 The heart of her husband safely trusts her;
 So he will have no lack of gain.
 (NIV: Her husband has full confidence in her
 and lacks nothing of value.)

A Person's Way/s - i.e. lifestyle, actions, etc.

31:31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,
 And let her own works praise her in the gates.

The Mouth / Tongue - what is spoken

31:26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,
 And on her tongue is the law of kindness.