

Proverbs Collection II: Solomon's Proverbs – Part 2 (c. 969t – 932t BC)**Proverbs 12–14****Speech and Deeds—Part 1**

- 12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
But he who hates reproof is stupid.
- 2 A good man will obtain favor from the LORD,
But He will condemn a man who devises evil.
- 3 A man will not be established by wickedness,
But the root of the righteous will not be moved.
- 4 An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,
But she who shames *him* is like rottenness in his bones.
- 5 The thoughts of the righteous are just,
But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.
- 6 The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood,
But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.
- 7 The wicked are overthrown and are no more,
But the house of the righteous will stand.
- 8 A man will be praised according to his insight,
But one of perverse mind will be despised.
- 9 Better is he who is lightly esteemed and has a servant
Than he who honors himself and lacks bread.
- 10 A righteous man has regard for the life of his animal,
But *even* the compassion of the wicked is cruel.
- 11 He who tills his land will have plenty of bread,
But he who pursues worthless *things* lacks sense.
- 12 The wicked man desires the booty of evil men,
But the root of the righteous yields *fruit*.
- 13 An evil man is ensnared by the transgression of his lips,
But the righteous will escape from trouble.
- 14 A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his words,
And the deeds of a man's hands will return to him.

Speech and Deeds—Part 2

- 15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
But a wise man is he who listens to counsel.
- 16 A fool's anger is known at once,
But a prudent man conceals dishonor.
- 17 He who speaks truth tells what is right,
But a false witness, deceit.
- 18 There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise brings healing.
- 19 Truthful lips will be established forever,
But a lying tongue is only for a moment.
- 20 Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil,
But counselors of peace have joy.
- 21 No harm befalls the righteous,
But the wicked are filled with trouble.
- 22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD,

- But those who deal faithfully are His delight.
- 23 A prudent man conceals knowledge,
But the heart of fools proclaims folly.
- 24 The hand of the diligent will rule,
But the slack *hand* will be put to forced labor.
- 25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down,
But a good word makes it glad.
- 26 The righteous is a guide to his neighbor,
But the way of the wicked leads them astray.
- 27 A lazy man does not roast his prey,
But the precious possession of a man *is* diligence.
- 28 In the way of righteousness is life,
And in *its* pathway there is no death.

Speech and Ethics

- 13:1 A wise son *accepts his* father's discipline,
But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.
- 2 From the fruit of a man's mouth he enjoys good,
But the desire of the treacherous is violence.
- 3 The one who guards his mouth preserves his life;
The one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.
- 4 The soul of the sluggard craves and *gets* nothing,
But the soul of the diligent is made fat.
- 5 A righteous man hates falsehood,
But a wicked man acts disgustingly and shamefully.
- 6 Righteousness guards the one whose way is blameless,
But wickedness subverts the sinner.

Wealth and Ethics

- 7 There is one who pretends to be rich, but has nothing;
Another pretends to be poor, but has great wealth.
- 8 The ransom of a man's life is his wealth,
But the poor hears no rebuke.
- 9 The light of the righteous rejoices,
But the lamp of the wicked goes out.
- 10 Through insolence comes nothing but strife,
But wisdom is with those who receive counsel.
- 11 Wealth *obtained* by fraud dwindles,
But the one who gathers by labor increases *it*.

Fulfillment through Wisdom versus Frustration through Folly

- 12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
But desire fulfilled is a tree of life.
- 13 The one who despises the word will be in debt to it,
But the one who fears the commandment will be rewarded.
- 14 The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life,
To turn aside from the snares of death.
- 15 Good understanding produces favor,
But the way of the treacherous is hard.

- 16 Every prudent man acts with knowledge,
But a fool displays folly.
- 17 A wicked messenger falls into adversity,
But a faithful envoy *brings* healing.
- 18 Poverty and shame *will come* to him who neglects discipline,
But he who regards reproof will be honored.
- 19 Desire realized is sweet to the soul,
But it is an abomination to fools to turn away from evil.

The Blessed Future of a Wise Son versus the Calamity that Awaits the Wicked

- 20 He who walks with wise men will be wise,
But the companion of fools will suffer harm.
- 21 Adversity pursues sinners,
But the righteous will be rewarded with prosperity.
- 22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,
And the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.
- 23 Abundant food *is in* the fallow ground of the poor,
But it is swept away by injustice.
- 24 He who withholds his rod hates his son,
But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.
- 25 The righteous has enough to satisfy his appetite,
But the stomach of the wicked is in need.

Walking in Wisdom

- 14:1 The wise woman builds her house,
But the foolish tears it down with her own hands.
- 2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD,
But he who is devious in his ways despises Him.
- 3 In the mouth of the foolish is a rod for *his* back,
But the lips of the wise will protect them.
- 4 Where no oxen are, the manger is clean,
But much revenue *comes* by the strength of the ox.
- 5 A trustworthy witness will not lie,
But a false witness utters lies.
- 6 A scoffer seeks wisdom and *finds* none,
But knowledge is easy to one who has understanding.
- 7 Leave the presence of a fool,
Or you will not discern words of knowledge.

Not Walking by Sight

- 8 The wisdom of the sensible is to understand his way,
But the foolishness of fools is deceit.
- 9 Fools mock at sin,
But among the upright there is good will.
- 10 The heart knows its own bitterness,
And a stranger does not share its joy.
- 11 The house of the wicked will be destroyed,
But the tent of the upright will flourish.
- 12 There is a way *which seems* right to a man,

But its end is the way of death.

- 13 Even in laughter the heart may be in pain,
And the end of joy may be grief.
- 14 The backslider in heart will have his fill of his own ways,
But a good man will *be satisfied* with his.

Contrasting Social Characterizations and Consequences

- 15 The naive believes everything,
But the sensible man considers his steps.
- 16 A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil,
But a fool is arrogant and careless.
- 17 A quick-tempered man acts foolishly,
And a man of evil devices is hated.
- 18 The naive inherit foolishness,
But the sensible are crowned with knowledge.
- 19 The evil will bow down before the good,
And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.
- 20 The poor is hated even by his neighbor,
But those who love the rich are many.
- 21 He who despises his neighbor sins,
But happy is he who is gracious to the poor.
- 22 Will they not go astray who devise evil?
But kindness and truth *will be to* those who devise good.
- 23 In all labor there is profit,
But mere talk *leads* only to poverty.
- 24 The crown of the wise is their riches,
But the folly of fools is foolishness.
- 25 A truthful witness saves lives,
But he who utters lies is treacherous.
- 26 In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence,
And his children will have refuge.
- 27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,
That one may avoid the snares of death.
- 28 In a multitude of people is a king's glory,
But in the dearth of people is a prince's ruin.
- 29 He who is slow to anger has great understanding,
But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.
- 30 A tranquil heart is life to the body,
But passion is rotteness to the bones.
- 31 He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker,
But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him.
- 32 The wicked is thrust down by his wrongdoing,
But the righteous has a refuge when he dies.
- 33 Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding,
But in the hearts of fools it is made known.
- 34 Righteousness exalts a nation,
But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.
- 35 The king's favor is toward a servant who acts wisely,
But his anger is toward him who acts shamefully.

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