

Proverbs 5:1-14 (Warning against Adultery)

1 My son, be attentive to my wisdom;
incline your ear to my understanding,

2 that you may keep discretion,
and your lips may guard knowledge.

3 For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil,

4 but in the end she is bitter as wormwood,
sharp as a two-edged sword.

5 Her feet go down to death;
her steps follow the path to Sheol;

6 she does not ponder the path of life;
her ways wander, and she does not know it.

7 And now, O sons, listen to me,
and do not depart from the words of my mouth.

8 Keep your way far from her,
and do not go near the door of her house,

9 lest you give your honor to others
and your years to the merciless,

10 lest strangers take their fill of your strength,
and your labors go to the house of a foreigner,

11 and at the end of your life you groan,
when your flesh and body are consumed,

12 and you say, "How I hated discipline,
and my heart despised reproof!

13 I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
or incline my ear to my instructors.

14 I am at the brink of utter ruin
in the assembled congregation."

Proverbs 19

- ¹ Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.
- ² Desire^a without knowledge is not good, and whoever makes haste with his feet misses his way.
- ³ When a man's folly brings his way to ruin, his heart rages against the LORD.
- ⁴ Wealth brings many new friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friend.
- ⁵ A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape.
- ⁶ Many seek the favor of a generous man, and everyone is a friend to a man who gives gifts.
- ⁷ All a poor man's brothers hate him; how much more do his friends go far from him! He pursues them with words, but does not have them.
- ⁸ Whoever gets sense loves his own soul; he who keeps understanding will discover good.
- ⁹ A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will perish.
- ¹⁰ It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury, much less for a slave to rule over princes.
- ¹¹ Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.
- ¹² A king's wrath is like the growling of a lion, but his favor is like dew on the grass.
- ¹³ A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.
- ¹⁴ House and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the LORD.
- ¹⁵ Slothfulness casts into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger.
- ¹⁶ Whoever keeps the commandment keeps his life; he who despises his ways will die.
- ¹⁷ Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.
- ¹⁸ Discipline your son, for there is hope; do not set your heart on putting him to death.
- ¹⁹ A man of great wrath will pay the penalty, for if you deliver him, you will only have to do it again.
- ²⁰ Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.
- ²¹ Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.
- ²² What is desired in a man is steadfast love, and a poor man is better than a liar.
- ²³ The fear of the LORD leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied; he will not be visited by harm.
- ²⁴ The sluggard buries his hand in the dish and will not even bring it back to his mouth.
- ²⁵ Strike a scoffer, and the simple will learn prudence; reprove a man of understanding, and he will gain knowledge.
- ²⁶ He who does violence to his father and chases away his mother is a son who brings shame and reproach.
- ²⁷ Cease to hear instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge.
- ²⁸ A worthless witness mocks at justice, and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.
- ²⁹ Condemnation is ready for scoffers, and beating for the backs of fools.