

**{20} Proverbs**

King James Version

King James Paraphrase {updated 11/20/13}

**Chapter 1**

- (1) The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;
- (2) To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;
- (3) To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;
- (4) To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
- (5) A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:
- (6) To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
- (7) The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- (8) My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:
- (9) For they *shall be* an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.
- (10) My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.
- (11) If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:
- (12) Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:
- (13) We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:
- (14) Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

**Chapter 1**

- (1) The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;
- (2) To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;
- (3) To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;
- (4) To give subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
- (5) A wise *man* will hear, and will increase in learning; and a man of understanding shall attain to wise counsels:
- (6) To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
- (7) The fear of the LORD {Jehovah} *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- (8) My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother:
- (9) Because they *shall be* an ornament of grace to your head, and chains about your neck.
- (10) My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.
- (11) If they say, Come with us, let us lay *in* wait for blood, let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause:
- (12) Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those who go down into the pit:
- (13) We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:
- (14) Cast in your lot among us; let us all have one purse:

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(15) My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:  
(16) For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.  
(17) Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.  
(18) And they lay wait for their *own* blood; they lurk privily for their *own* lives.  
(19) So *are* the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; *which* taketh away the life of the owners thereof.  
(20) Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:  
(21) She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, *saying*,  
(22) How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scornors delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?  
(23) Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.  
(24) Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;  
(25) But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:  
(26) I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;  
(27) When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.  
(28) Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

(15) My son, do not walk in the way with them; refrain your foot from their path:  
(16) Because their feet runs to evil, and makes haste to shed blood.  
(17) Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.  
(18) And they lay wait for their *own* blood; they lurk secretly for their *own* lives.  
(19) So *are* the ways of every one who is greedy of gain; *who* takes away the life of its owners.  
(20) Wisdom cries outside; she utters her voice in the streets:  
(21) She cries in the chief market place, in the openings of the gates: in the city she utters her words, *saying*,  
(22) How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? and the scornors delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?  
(23) Turn yourself at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit to you, I will make known my words to you.  
(24) Because I have called, and you refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;  
(25) But you have set at nothing all my counsel, and would *have* none of my reproof:  
(26) I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes;  
(27) When your fear comes as desolation, and your destruction comes as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish comes upon you.  
(28) Then they shall call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

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(29) For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:  
(30) They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.  
(31) Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.  
(32) For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.  
(33) But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

**Chapter 2**

(1) My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;  
(2) So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, *and* apply thine heart to understanding;  
(3) Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, *and* liftest up thy voice for understanding;  
(4) If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as *for* hid treasures;  
(5) Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.  
(6) For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth *cometh* knowledge and understanding.  
(7) He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.  
(8) He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.  
(9) Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; *yea*, every good path.

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(29) Because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD {Jehovah}:  
(30) They would *have* none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.  
(31) Therefore they shall eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.  
(32) Because the turning away of the simple will kill them, and the prosperity of fools will destroy them.  
(33) But whoever listens to me shall live safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

**Chapter 2**

(1) My son, if you will receive my words, and hide my commandments within you;  
(2) So that you incline your ear to wisdom, *and* apply your heart to understanding;  
(3) Yes, if you cry after knowledge, *and* lift up your voice for understanding;  
(4) If you seek her as silver, and search for her as *for* hidden treasures;  
(5) Then you shall understand the fear of the LORD {Jehovah}, and find the knowledge of God.  
(6) Because the LORD {Jehovah} gives wisdom: out of His mouth *comes* knowledge and understanding.  
(7) He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous: *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly.  
(8) He keeps the paths of judgment, and preserves the way of His saints.  
(9) Then you shall understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; *yes*, every good path.