

Proverbial discipline

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. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. 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. (Pro 1:1-9)

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. (Pro 2:1-9)

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. (Pro 3:1-8)

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. (Pro 3:11-12)

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. 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. (Pro 4:20-27)

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. (Pro 5:1-6)

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. (Pro 6:20-24)

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. (Pro 7:1-5)

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. (Pro 8:10-11)

"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." (Pro 8:32-36)

"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." (Pro 9:9-10)

He who walks with integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will become known. In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise. 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. He who keeps instruction is in the way of life, but he who refuses correction goes astray. In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise. The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut out. The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked what is perverse. (Pro 10:9, 13, 17, 19, 31-32)

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid. The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray. (Pro 12:1, 26)

A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke. He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction. He who despises the word will be destroyed, but he who fears the commandment will be rewarded. Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, but he who regards a rebuke will be honored. He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed. He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly. (Pro 13:1, 3, 13, 18, 20, 24)

He who walks in his uprightness fears the Lord, but he who is perverse in his ways despises Him. In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, and His children will have a place of refuge. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death. Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding, but what is in the heart of fools is made known. (Pro 14:2, 26, 27, 33)

A fool despises his father's instruction, but he who receives correction is prudent. Harsh discipline is for him who forsakes the way, and he who hates correction will die. Hell and destruction are before the Lord; so how much more the hearts of the sons of men. A scoffer does not love one who corrects him, nor will he go to the wise. The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness. A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother. 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. (Pro 15:5, 10-12, 14, 20, 31-33)

A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver. He who heeds the word wisely will find good, and whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he. (Pro 16:9, 16, 20)

The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord test the hearts. Rebuke is more effective for a wise man than a hundred blows on a fool. A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her who bore him. He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; when he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive. (Pro 17:3, 10, 25, 27-28)

A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Pro 18:7, 13, 21)

Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his destruction. Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days. The fear of the Lord leads to life, and he who has it will abide in satisfaction; he will not be visited with evil. Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary; rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge. He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother is a son who causes shame and brings reproach. Cease listening to instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge. Judgments are prepared for scoffers, and beatings for the backs of fools. (Pro 19:18, 20, 23, 25-27, 29)

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out. The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him. Even a child is known by his deeds, whether what he does is pure and right. There is gold and a multitude of rubies, but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel. Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in deep darkness. A man's steps are of the Lord; how then can a man understand his own way? The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart. Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, as do stripes the inner depths of the heart. (Pro 20:5, 7, 11, 15, 20, 24, 27, 30)

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. He who follows righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness, and honor. Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles. (Pro 21:3, 21, 23)

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold. Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him. (Pro 22:1, 6, 15)

Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to words of knowledge. 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. 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. Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding. 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. (Pro 23:12-16, 22-25)

A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the fool's back. (Pro 26:3)

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit; so he who waits on his master will be honored. Hell and Destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied. The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, and a man is valued by what others say of him. (Pro 27:17-18, 20)

Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, but such as keep the law contend with them. He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, but he who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall. (Pro 28:4, 13, 18)

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan. Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice, but a companion of harlots wastes his wealth. The righteous considers the cause of the poor, but the wicked does not understand such knowledge. The rod and rebuke give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother. Correct your son, and he will give you rest; yes, he will give delight to your soul. Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but happy is he who keeps the law. (Pro 29:2-3, 7, 15, 17-18)

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. 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. (Pro 30:5-6, 17)

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