

The Proverbs

¹ The Parables of Salomon the sonne of Daud King of Israel, ² To knowe wisdom, and instruction, to vnderstand ye wordes of knowledge, ³ To receiue instruction to do wisely, by iustice and iudgement and equitie, ⁴ To giue vnto the simple, sharpenesse of wit, and to the childe knowledge and discretion. ⁵ A wise man shall heare and increase in learning, and a man of vnderstanding shall attayne vnto wise counsels, ⁶ To vnderstand a parable, and the interpretation, the wordes of ye wise, and their darke sayings. ⁷ The feare of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fooles despise wisdom and instruction. ⁸ My sonne, heare thy fathers instruction, and forsake not thy mothers teaching. ⁹ For they shalbe a comely ornament vnto thine head, and as chaines for thy necke. ¹⁰ My sonne, if sinners doe intise thee, consent thou not. ¹¹ If they say, Come with vs, we will lay waite for blood, and lie priuillie for the innocent without a cause: ¹² We wil swallow them vp aliue like a graue euen whole, as those that goe downe into the pit: ¹³ We shall finde all precious riches, and fill our houses with spoyle: ¹⁴ Cast in thy lot among vs: we will all haue one purse: ¹⁵ My sonne, walke not thou in the way with them: refraine thy foote from their path. ¹⁶ For their feete runne to euill, and make haste to shed blood. ¹⁷ Certainly as without cause the net is

spread before the eyes of all that hath wing: ¹⁸ So they lay waite for blood and lie priuily for their liues. ¹⁹ Such are the wayes of euery one that is greedy of gaine: he would take away the life of the owners thereof. ²⁰ Wisdome cryeth without: she vttereth her voyce in the streetes. ²¹ She calleth in the hye streete, among the prease in the entrings of the gates, and vttereth her wordes in the citie, saying, ²² O ye foolish, howe long will ye loue foolishnes? and the scornefull take their pleasure in scorning, and the fooles hate knowledge? ²³ (Turne you at my correction: loe, I will powre out my mind vnto you, and make you vnderstand my wordes) ²⁴ Because I haue called, and ye refused: I haue stretched out mine hand, and none woulde regarde. ²⁵ But ye haue despised all my counsell, and would none of my correction. ²⁶ I will also laugh at your destruction, and mocke, when your feare commeth. ²⁷ Whe your feare cometh like sudden desolation, and your destruction shall come like a whirle wind: whe affliction and anguish shall come vpon you, ²⁸ Then shall they call vpon me, but I will not answeere: they shall seeke me early, but they shall not finde me, ²⁹ Because they hated knowledge, and did not chuse the feare of the Lord. ³⁰ They would none of my counsell, but despised all my correction. ³¹ Therefore shall they eate of ye fruite of their owne way, and be filled with their owne deuises. ³² For ease slaieth the foolish, and the prosperitie of fooles destroyeth them. ³³ But he that obeyeth me, shall

dwell safely, and be quiet from feare of euill.

2

¹ My sonne, if thou wilt receiue my wordes, and hide my commandements within thee, ² And cause thine eares to hearken vnto wisdome, and encline thine heart to vnderstanding, ³ (For if thou callest after knowledge, and cryest for vnderstanding: ⁴ If thou seekest her as siluer, and searchest for her as for treasures, ⁵ Then shalt thou vnderstand the feare of the Lord, and finde the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the Lord giueth wisdome, out of his mouth commeth knowledge and vnderstanding. ⁷ He preserueth the state of the righteous: he is a shielde to them that walke vprightly, ⁸ That they may keepe the wayes of iudgement: and he preserueth the way of his Saintes) ⁹ Then shalt thou vnderstand righteousnes, and iudgement, and equitie, and euery good path. ¹⁰ When wisdome entreth into thine heart, and knowledge deliteth thy soule, ¹¹ Then shall counsell preserue thee, and vnderstanding shall keepe thee, ¹² And deliuer thee from the euill way, and from the man that speaketh froward things, ¹³ And from them that leaue the wayes of righteousnes to walke in the wayes of darkenes: ¹⁴ Which reioyce in doing euill, and delite in the frowardnesse of the wicked, ¹⁵ Whose wayes are crooked and they are lewde in their paths. ¹⁶ And it shall deliuer thee from the strange woman, euen from the stranger, which flattereth with her wordes. ¹⁷ Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and

forgetteth the couenant of her God. ¹⁸ Surely her house tendeth to death, and her paths vnto the dead. ¹⁹ All they that goe vnto her, returne not againe, neither take they holde of the wayes of life. ²⁰ Therefore walke thou in the way of good men, and keepe the wayes of the righteous. ²¹ For the iust shall dwell in the land, and the vpright men shall remaine in it. ²² But the wicked shalbe cut off from ye earth, and the transgressours shalbe rooted out of it.

3

¹ My sonne, forget not thou my Lawe, but let thine heart keepe my commandements. ² For they shall increase the length of thy dayes and the yeeres of life, and thy prosperitie. ³ Let not mercie and trueth forsake thee: binde them on thy necke, and write them vpon the table of thine heart. ⁴ So shalt thou finde fauour and good vnderstanding in the sight of God and man. ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and leane not vnto thine owne wisdome. ⁶ In all thy wayes acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy wayes. ⁷ Be not wise in thine owne eyes: but feare the Lord, and depart from euill. ⁸ So health shalbe vnto thy nauel, and marowe vnto thy bones. ⁹ Honour the Lord with thy riches, and with the first frutes of all thine increase. ¹⁰ So shall thy barnes be filled with abundance, and thy presses shall burst with newe wine. ¹¹ My sonne, refuse not the chastening of the Lord, neither be griued with his correction. ¹² For the Lord correcteth him,

whome he loueth, euen as the father doeth the childe in whom he deliteth. ¹³ Blessed is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth vnderstanding. ¹⁴ For the marchandise thereof is better then the marchandise of siluer, and the gaine thereof is better then golde. ¹⁵ It is more precious then pearles: and all things that thou canst desire, are not to be compared vnto her. ¹⁶ Length of dayes is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and glory. ¹⁷ Her wayes are wayes of pleasure, and all her pathes prosperitie. ¹⁸ She is a tree of life to them that lay holde on her, and blessed is he that retaineth her. ¹⁹ The Lord by wisdom hath layde the foundation of the earth, and hath stablished the heauens through vnderstanding. ²⁰ By his knowledge the deptes are broken vp, and the cloudes droppe downe the dewe. ²¹ My sonne, let not these things depart from thine eyes, but obserue wisdom, and counsell. ²² So they shalbe life to thy soule, and grace vnto thy necke. ²³ Then shalt thou walke safely by thy way: and thy foote shall not stumble. ²⁴ If thou sleepest, thou shalt not bee afraide, and when thou sleepest, thy sleepe shalbe sweete. ²⁵ Thou shalt not feare for any sudden feare, neither for the destruction of the wicked, when it commeth. ²⁶ For the Lord shall be for thine assurance, and shall preserue thy foote from taking. ²⁷ Withhold not the good from the owners thereof, though there be power in thine hand to doe it. ²⁸ Say not vnto thy neighbour, Go and come againe, and to morow wil I giue thee, if thou now haue

it. ²⁹ Intend none hurt against thy neighbour, seeing he doeth dwell without feare by thee. ³⁰ Striue not with a man causelesse, when he hath done thee no harme. ³¹ Bee not enuious for the wicked man, neither chuse any of his wayes. ³² For the frowarde is abomination vnto the Lord: but his secret is with the righteous. ³³ The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the righteous. ³⁴ With the scornfull he scorneth, but hee giueth grace vnto the humble. ³⁵ The wise shall inherite glorie: but fooles dishonour, though they be exalted.

4

¹ Heare, O ye children, the instruction of a father, and giue eare to learne vnderstanding. ² For I doe giue you a good doctrine: therefore forsake yee not my lawe. ³ For I was my fathers sonne, tender and deare in the sight of my mother, ⁴ When he taught me, and sayde vnto me, Let thine heart holde fast my woordes: keepe my commandements, and thou shalt liue. ⁵ Get wisdom: get vnderstading: forget not, neither decline from the woordes of my mouth. ⁶ Forsake her not, and shee shall keepe thee: loue her and shee shall preserue thee. ⁷ Wisedome is the beginning: get wisdom therefore: and aboue all thy possession get vnderstanding. ⁸ Exalt her, and she shall exalt thee: she shall bring thee to honour, if thou embrace her. ⁹ She shall giue a comely ornamet vnto thine head, yea, she shall giue thee a crowne of glorie. ¹⁰ Heare, my sonne,

and receiue my wordes, and the yeeres of thy life shalbe many. ¹¹ I haue taught thee in ye way of wisdom, and led thee in the pathes of righteousnesse. ¹² Whe thou goest, thy gate shall not be strait, and when thou runnest, thou shalt not fall. ¹³ Take holde of instruction, and leaue not: keepe her, for shee is thy life. ¹⁴ Enter not into the way of the wicked, and walke not in the way of euill men. ¹⁵ Auoide it, and goe not by it: turne from it, and passe by. ¹⁶ For they can not sleepe, except they haue done euill, and their sleepe departeth except they cause some to fall. ¹⁷ For they eate the breade of wickednesse, and drinke the wine of violence. ¹⁸ But the way of the righteous shineth as the light, that shineth more and more vnto the perfite day. ¹⁹ The way of the wicked is as the darkenes: they knowe not wherein they shall fall. ²⁰ My sonne, hearken vnto my wordes, incline thine eare vnto my sayings. ²¹ Let them not depart from thine eyes, but keepe them in the middes of thine heart. ²² For they are life vnto those that find them, and health vnto all their flesh. ²³ Keepe thine heart with all diligence: for thereout commeth life. ²⁴ Put away from thee a froward mouth, and put wicked lippes farre from thee. ²⁵ Let thine eyes beholde the right, and let thine eyelids direct thy way before thee. ²⁶ Ponder the path of thy feete, and let all thy waies be ordred aright. ²⁷ Turne not to the right hande, nor to the left, but remooue thy foote from euill.

5

¹ My sonne, hearken vnto my wisdom, and incline thine eare vnto my knowledge. ² That thou maiest regarde counsell, and thy lippes obserue knowledge. ³ For the lippes of a strange woman drop as an honie combe, and her mouth is more soft then oyle. ⁴ But the end of her is bitter as wormewood, and sharpe as a two edged sworde. ⁵ Her feete goe downe to death, and her steps take holde on hell. ⁶ She weigheth not the way of life: her paths are moueable: thou canst not knowe them. ⁷ Heare yee me nowe therefore, O children, and depart not from the wordes of my mouth. ⁸ Keepe thy way farre from her, and come not neere the doore of her house, ⁹ Least thou giue thine honor vnto others, and thy yeeres to the cruell: ¹⁰ Least the stranger should be silled with thy strength, and thy labours bee in the house of a stranger, ¹¹ And thou mourne at thine end, (when thou hast consumed thy flesh and thy bodie) ¹² And say, How haue I hated instruction, and mine heart despised correction! ¹³ And haue not obeyed the voyce of them that taught mee, nor enclined mine eare to them that instructed me! ¹⁴ I was almost brought into all euil in ye mids of the Congregation and assemblie. ¹⁵ Drinke the water of thy cisterne, and of the riuers out of the middes of thine owne well. ¹⁶ Let thy fountaines flow foorth, and the riuers of waters in the streetes. ¹⁷ But let them bee thine, euen thine onely, and not the strangers with thee. ¹⁸ Let thy fountaine be blessed, and reioyce with

the wife of thy youth. ¹⁹ Let her be as the louing hinde and pleasant roe: let her brests satisfie thee at all times, and delite in her loue continually. ²⁰ For why shouldest thou delite, my sonne, in a strange woman, or embrace the bosome of a stranger? ²¹ For the waies of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his pathes. ²² His owne iniquities shall take the wicked himselfe, and he shall be holden with the cordes of his owne sinne. ²³ Hee shall die for fault of instruction, and shall goe astray through his great follie.

6

¹ My sonne, if thou be surety for thy neighbour, and hast striken hands with the stranger, ² Thou art snared with the wordes of thy mouth: thou art euen taken with the woordes of thine owne mouth. ³ Doe this now, my sonne, and deliuer thy selfe: seeing thou art come into the hande of thy neighbour, goe, and humble thy selfe, and sollicite thy friends. ⁴ Giue no sleepe to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids. ⁵ Deliuer thy selfe as a doe from the hande of the hunter, and as a birde from the hande of the fouler. ⁶ Goe to the pismire, O sluggarde: beholde her waies, and be wise. ⁷ For shee hauing no guide, gouernour, nor ruler, ⁸ Prepareth her meat in the sommer, and gathereth her foode in haruest. ⁹ Howe long wilt thou sleepe, O sluggarde? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleepe? ¹⁰ Yet a litle sleepe, a litle slumber, a litle folding of the hands to sleepe. ¹¹ Therefore thy pouertie commeth as

one that trauaileth by the way, and thy necessitie like an armed man. ¹² The vnthriftie man and the wicked man walketh with a froward mouth. ¹³ He maketh a signe with his eyes: he signifieth with his feete: he instructeth with his fingers. ¹⁴ Lewde things are in his heart: he imagineth euill at all times, and raiseth vp contentions. ¹⁵ Therefore shall his destruction come speedily: hee shall be destroyed suddenly without recouerie. ¹⁶ These sixe things doeth the Lord hate: yea, his soule abhorreth seuen: ¹⁷ The hautie eyes, a lying tongue, and the hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ An heart that imagineth wicked enterprises, feete that be swift in running to mischief, ¹⁹ A false witness that speaketh lyes, and him that rayseth vp contentions among brethren. ²⁰ My sonne, keepe thy fathers commandement, and forsake not thy mothers instruction. ²¹ Binde them alway vpon thine heart, and tye them about thy necke. ²² It shall leade thee, when thou walkest: it shall watch for thee, when thou sleepest, and when thou wakest, it shall talke with thee. ²³ For the commandement is a lanterne, and instruction a light: and corrections for instruction are the way of life, ²⁴ To keepe thee from the wicked woman, and from ye flatterie of ye tongue of a strange woman. ²⁵ Desire not her beautie in thine heart, neither let her take thee with her eye lids. ²⁶ For because of the whorish woman a man is brought to a morsell of bread, and a woman wil hunt for the precious life of a man. ²⁷ Can a man take fire in his bosome, and his

clothes not be burnt? ²⁸ Or can a man go vpon coales, and his feete not be burnt? ²⁹ So he that goeth in to his neighbours wife, shall not be innocent, whosoeuer toucheth her. ³⁰ Men do not despise a thiefe, when he stealeth, to satisfie his soule, because he is hungrie. ³¹ But if he be founde, he shall restore seuen folde, or he shall giue all the substance of his house. ³² But he that committeth adulterie with a woman, he is destitute of vnderstanding: he that doeth it, destroyeth his owne soule. ³³ He shall finde a wounde and dishonour, and his reproch shall neuer be put away. ³⁴ For ielousie is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. ³⁵ He cannot beare the sight of any raunsome: neither will he consent, though thou augment the giftes.

7

¹ My sonne, keepe my wordes, and hide my commandements with thee. ² Keepe my commandements, and thou shalt liue, and mine instruction as the apple of thine eyes. ³ Binde them vpon thy fingers, and write them vpon the table of thine heart. ⁴ Say vnto wisdom, Thou art my sister: and call vnderstanding thy kinswoman, ⁵ That they may keepe thee from the strange woman, euen from the stranger that is smoothe in her wordes. ⁶ As I was in the window of mine house, I looked through my window, ⁷ And I sawe among the fooles, and considered among the children a yong man destitute of vnderstanding, ⁸ Who passed through the streete

by her corner, and went toward her house, ⁹ In the twilight in the euening, when the night began to be blacke and darke. ¹⁰ And beholde, there met him a woman with an harlots behaiour, and subtill in heart. ¹¹ (She is babling and loud: whose feete can not abide in her house. ¹² Nowe she is without, nowe in the streetes, and lyeth in waite at euery corner) ¹³ So she caught him and kissed him and with an impudent face said vnto him, ¹⁴ I haue peace offerings: this day haue I payed my vowes. ¹⁵ Therefore came I forth to meete thee, that I might seeke thy face: and I haue found thee. ¹⁶ I haue deckt my bed with ornaments, carpets and laces of Egypt. ¹⁷ I haue perfumed my bedde with myrrhe, aloes, and cynamom. ¹⁸ Come, let vs take our fill of loue vntill the morning: let vs take our pleasure in daliance. ¹⁹ For mine husband is not at home: he is gone a iourney farre off. ²⁰ He hath taken with him a bagge of siluer, and will come home at the day appointed. ²¹ Thus with her great craft she caused him to yeelde, and with her flattering lips she entised him. ²² And he followed her straight wayes, as an oxe that goeth to the slaughter, and as a foole to the stockes for correction, ²³ Till a dart strike through his liuer, as a bird hasteth to the snare, not knowing that he is in danger. ²⁴ Heare me now therefore, O children, and hearken to the wordes of my mouth. ²⁵ Let not thine heart decline to her wayes: wander thou not in her paths. ²⁶ For shee hath caused many to fall downe wounded, and the strong men are all slaine by her. ²⁷ Her house is the way vnto

ye graue, which goeth downe to the chambers of death.

8

¹ Doth not wisdom crie? and vnderstanding vtter her voyce? ² She standeth in the top of the high places by the way in the place of the paths. ³ She cryeth besides the gates before the citie at the entrie of the doores, ⁴ O men, I call vnto you, and vtter my voyce to the children of men. ⁵ O ye foolish men, vnderstand wisdom, and ye, O fooles, be wise in heart. ⁶ Giue eare, for I will speake of excellent things, and the opening of my lippes, shall teache things that be right. ⁷ For my mouth shall speake the trueth, and my lippes abhorre wickednesse. ⁸ All the wordes of my mouth are righteous: there is no lewdenes, nor frowardnesse in them. ⁹ They are all plaine to him that will vnderstande, and streight to them that woulde finde knowledge. ¹⁰ Receiue mine instruction, and not siluer, and knowledge rather then fine golde. ¹¹ For wisdom is better then precious stones: and all pleasures are not to be compared vnto her. ¹² I wisdom dwell with prudence, and I find foorth knowledge and counsels. ¹³ The feare of the Lord is to hate euill as pride, and arrogancie, and the euill way: and a mouth that speaketh lewde things, I doe hate. ¹⁴ I haue counsell and wisdom: I am vnderstanding, and I haue strength. ¹⁵ By me, Kings reigne, and princes decree iustice. ¹⁶ By me princes rule and the nobles, and all the iudges of the earth. ¹⁷ I loue them that loue

me: and they that seeke me earely, shall finde me. ¹⁸ Riches and honour are with me: euen durable riches and righteousnesse. ¹⁹ My fruite is better then golde, euen then fine golde, and my reuenues better then fine siluer. ²⁰ I cause to walke in the way of righteousnes, and in the middes of the paths of iudgement, ²¹ That I may cause them that loue me, to inherite substance, and I will fill their treasures. ²² The Lord hath possessed me in the beginning of his way: I was before his workes of olde. ²³ I was set vp from euerlasting, from the beginning and before the earth. ²⁴ When there were no depths, was I begotten, when there were no fountaines abounding with water. ²⁵ Before the mountaines were settled: and before the hilles, was I begotten. ²⁶ He had not yet made the earth, nor the open places, nor the height of the dust in the worlde. ²⁷ When hee prepared the heauens, I was there, when he set the compasse vpon the deepe. ²⁸ When he established the cloudes aboue, when he confirmed the fountaines of the deepe, ²⁹ When he gaue his decree to the Sea, that the waters shoulde not passe his commandement: when he appointed the foundations of the earth, ³⁰ Then was I with him as a nourisher, and I was dayly his delight reioycing alway before him, ³¹ And tooke my solace in the compasse of his earth: and my delite is with the children of men. ³² Therefore nowe hearken, O children, vnto me: for blessed are they that keepe my wayes. ³³ Heare instruction, and be ye wise, and refuse it not: blessed is the man that heareth

mee, watching dayly at my gates, and giuing attendance at the postes of my doores. ³⁴ For he that findeth me, findeth life, and shall obtaine fauour of the Lord. ³⁵ But he that sinneth against me, hurteth his owne soule: and all that hate me, loue death.

9

¹ Wisedome hath built her house, and hewen out her seuen pillars. ² She hath killed her vitales, drawen her wine, and prepared her table. ³ She hath sent forth her maydens and cryeth vpon the highest places of the citie, saying, ⁴ Who so is simple, let him come hither, and to him that is destitute of wisdom, she sayth, ⁵ Come, and eate of my meate, and drinke of the wine that I haue drawen. ⁶ Forsake your way, ye foolish, and ye shall liue: and walke in the way of vnderstanding. ⁷ He that reprobeth a scorner, purchaseth to himselfe shame: and he that rebuketh the wicked, getteth himselfe a blot. ⁸ Rebuke not a scorner, least he hate thee: but rebuke a wise man, and he will loue thee. ⁹ Giue admonition to the wise, and he will be the wiser: teache a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. ¹⁰ The beginning of wisdom is the feare of the Lord, and the knowledge of holy things, is vnderstanding. ¹¹ For thy dayes shalbe multiplied by me, and the yeeres of thy life shalbe augmented. ¹² If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thy selfe, and if thou be a scorner, thou alone shalt suffer. ¹³ A foolish woman is troublesome: she is ignorant, and knoweth

nothing. ¹⁴ But she sitteth at the doore of her house on a seate in the hie places of the citie, ¹⁵ To call them that passe by the way, that go right on their way, saying, ¹⁶ Who so is simple, let him come hither, and to him that is destitute of wisdom, shee sayth also, ¹⁷ Stollen waters are sweete, and hid bread is pleasant. ¹⁸ But he knoweth not, that ye dead are there, and that her ghestes are in the depth of hell.

10

¹ THE PARABLE OF SALOMON. A wise sonne maketh a glad father: but a foolish sonne is an heuines to his mother. ² The treasures of wickednesse profite nothing: but righteousnesse deliuereth from death. ³ The Lord will not famish the soule of the righteous: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked. ⁴ A slouthfull hand maketh poore: but the hand of the diligent maketh riche. ⁵ He that gathereth in sommer, is the sonne of wisdom: but he that sleepeth in haruest, is the sonne of confusion. ⁶ Blessings are vpon the head of the righteous: but iniquitie shall couer the mouth of the wicked. ⁷ The memoriall of the iust shalbe blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rotte. ⁸ The wise in heart will receiue commandements: but the foolish in talke shalbe beaten. ⁹ He that walketh vprightly, walketh boldely: but he that peruerteth his wayes, shalbe knowen. ¹⁰ He that winketh with the eye, worketh sorowe, and he yet is foolish in talke, shalbe beaten. ¹¹ The mouth of a righteous man is a welspring of life: but iniquitie couereth the mouth of the

wicked. ¹² Hatred stirreth vp contentions: but loue couereth all trespasses. ¹³ In the lippes of him that hath vnderstanding wisdome is founde, and a rod shalbe for the backe of him that is destitute of wisdome. ¹⁴ Wise men lay vp knowledge: but ye mouth of the foole is a present destruction. ¹⁵ The riche mans goodes are his strong citie: but the feare of the needie is their pouertie. ¹⁶ The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: but the reuenues of the wicked to sinne. ¹⁷ He that regardeth instruction, is in the way of life: but he that refuseth correction, goeth out of the way. ¹⁸ He that dissembleth hatred with lying lips, and he that inuenteth slaunder, is a foole. ¹⁹ In many wordes there cannot want iniquitie: but he that refrayneth his lippes, is wise. ²⁰ The tongue of the iust man is as fined siluer: but the heart of the wicked is litle worth. ²¹ The lippes of the righteous doe feede many: but fooles shall die for want of wisdome. ²² The blessing of the Lord, it maketh riche, and he doeth adde no sorowes with it. ²³ It is as a pastime to a foole to doe wickedly: but wisdome is vnderstanding to a man. ²⁴ That which the wicked feareth, shall come vpon him: but God wil graunt the desire of the righteous. ²⁵ As the whirlewinde passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is as an euerlasting foundation. ²⁶ As vineger is to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the slouthful to them that send him. ²⁷ The feare of the Lord increaseth the dayes: but the yeeres of the wicked shalbe diminished. ²⁸ The patient abiding of the righteous shall be gladnesse: but the hope

of the wicked shall perish. ²⁹ The way of the Lord is strength to the vpright man: but feare shall be for the workers of iniquitie. ³⁰ The righteous shall neuer be remooued: but the wicked shall not dwell in the land. ³¹ The mouth of the iust shall be fruitfull in wisdom: but the tongue of the froward shall be cut out. ³² The lips of the righteous knowe what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaketh froward things.

11

¹ False balances are an abomination vnto the Lord: but a perfite weight pleaseth him. ² When pride commeth, then commeth shame: but with the lowly is wisdom. ³ The vprightnes of the iust shall guide them: but the frowardnes of the transgressers shall destroy them. ⁴ Riches auaille not in the day of wrath: but righteousnes deliuereth from death. ⁵ The righteousnes of the vpright shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall in his owne wickednes. ⁶ The righteousnesse of the iust shall deliuer them: but the transgressers shall be taken in their owne wickednes. ⁷ When a wicked man dieth, his hope perisheth, and the hope of the vniust shall perish. ⁸ The righteous escapeth out of trouble, and the wicked shall come in his steade. ⁹ An hypocrite with his mouth hurteth his neighbour: but the righteous shall be deliuered by knowledge. ¹⁰ In the prosperitie of the righteous the citie reioyceth, and when the wicked perish, there is ioye. ¹¹ By the blessing of the righteous, the citie is exalted: but it is subuerted by the mouth of the wicked.

12 He that despiseth his neighbour, is destitute of wisdom: but a man of vnderstanding will keepe silence. 13 Hee that goeth about as a slanderer, discovereth a secret: but hee that is of a faithfull heart concealeth a matter. 14 Where no counsell is, the people fall: but where many counsellors are, there is health. 15 Hee shall be sore vexed, that is suretie for a stranger, and he that hateth suretiship, is sure. 16 A gracious woman attaineth honour, and the strong men attaine riches. 17 Hee that is mercifull, rewardeth his owne soule: but he that troubleth his own flesh, is cruel. 18 The wicked worketh a deceitful worke: but hee that soweth righteousnes, shall receiue a sure rewarde. 19 As righteousnes leadeth to life: so hee that followeth euill, seeketh his owne death. 20 They that are of a froward heart, are abomination to the Lord: but they that are vpright in their way, are his delite. 21 Though hande ioyne in hande, the wicked shall not be vnpunished: but the seede of the righteous shall escape. 22 As a iewell of golde in a swines snoute: so is a faire woman, which lacketh discretion. 23 The desire of the righteous is onely good: but the hope of the wicked is indignation. 24 There is that scattereth, and is more increased: but hee that spareth more then is right, surely commeth to pouertie. 25 The liberall person shall haue plentie: and he that watereth, shall also haue raine. 26 He that withdraweth the corne, the people will curse him: but blessing shalbe vpon the head of him that selleth corne. 27 He that seeketh good things, getteth fauour: but he that

seeketh euill, it shall come to him. ²⁸ He that trusteth in his riches, shall fall: but the righteous shall florish as a leafe. ²⁹ He that troubleth his owne house, shall inherite the winde, and the foole shalbe seruant to the wise in heart. ³⁰ The fruite of the righteous is as a tree of life, and he that winneth soules, is wise. ³¹ Beholde, the righteous shalbe recompensed in the earth: howe much more the wicked and the sinner?

12

¹ He that loueth instruction, loueth knowledge: but he that hateth correction, is a foole. ² A good man getteth fauour of the Lord: but the man of wicked immaginations will hee condemne. ³ A man cannot be established by wickednesse: but the roote of the righteous shall not be mooued. ⁴ A vertuous woman is the crowne of her husband: but she that maketh him ashamed, is as corruption in his bones. ⁵ The thoughtes of the iust are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceitfull. ⁶ The talking of the wicked is to lye in waite for blood: but the mouth of the righteous will deliuer them. ⁷ God ouerthroweth the wicked, and they are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand. ⁸ A man shall be commended for his wisdome: but the froward of heart shalbe despised. ⁹ He that is despised, and is his owne seruant, is better then he that boasteth himselfe and lacketh bread. ¹⁰ A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the mercies of the wicked are cruell. ¹¹ He that tilleth his lande, shalbe satisfied with bread: but he that followeth the idle, is destitute of

vnderstanding. ¹² The wicked desireth the net of euils: but the roote of the righteous giueth fruite. ¹³ The euill man is snared by the wickednesse of his lips, but the iust shall come out of aduersitie. ¹⁴ A man shalbe satiate with good things by the fruite of his mouth, and the recompence of a mans hands shall God giue vnto him. ¹⁵ The way of a foole is right in his owne eyes: but he that heareth counsell, is wise. ¹⁶ A foole in a day shall be knowen by his anger: but he that couereth shame, is wise. ¹⁷ He that speaketh trueth, will shewe righteousnes: but a false witnes vseth deceite. ¹⁸ There is that speaketh wordes like the prickings of a sworde: but the tongue of wise men is health. ¹⁹ The lip of trueth shall be stable for euer: but a lying tongue varieth incontinently. ²⁰ Deceite is in the heart of them that imagine euill: but to the counsellors of peace shall be ioye. ²¹ There shall none iniquitie come to the iust: but the wicked are full of euill. ²² The lying lips are an abomination to the Lord: but they that deale truely are his delite. ²³ A wise man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of the fooles publisheth foolishnes. ²⁴ The hand of the diligent shall beare rule: but the idle shalbe vnder tribute. ²⁵ Heauines in the heart of man doeth bring it downe: but a good worde reioyceth it. ²⁶ The righteous is more excellent then his neighbour: but the way of the wicked will deceiue them. ²⁷ The deceitfull man rosteth not, that hee tooke in hunting: but the riches of the diligent man are precious. ²⁸ Life is in the way of righteousnesse, and in that path way

there is no death.

13

¹ A wise sonne will obey the instruction of his father: but a scorner will heare no rebuke. ² A man shall eate good things by the fruite of his mouth: but the soule of the trespassers shall suffer violence. ³ Hee that keepeth his mouth, keepeth his life: but he that openeth his lips, destruction shall be to him. ⁴ The sluggard lusteth, but his soule hath nought: but the soule of the diligent shall haue plentie. ⁵ A righteous man hateth lying wordes: but the wicked causeth slander and shame. ⁶ Righteousnesse preserueth the vpright of life: but wickednes ouerthroweth the sinner. ⁷ There is that maketh himselfe riche, and hath nothing, and that maketh himselfe poore, hauing great riches. ⁸ A man will giue his riches for the ransome of his life: but the poore cannot heare ye reproch. ⁹ The light of the righteous reioyceth: but the candle of the wicked shall be put out. ¹⁰ Onely by pride doeth man make contention: but with the well aduised is wisdom. ¹¹ The riches of vanitie shall diminish: but he that gathereth with the hand, shall increase them. ¹² The hope that is deferred, is the fainting of the heart: but when the desire commeth, it is as a tree of life. ¹³ He that despiseth the worde, hee shall be destroyed: but hee that feareth the commandement he shalbe rewarded. ¹⁴ The instruction of a wise man is as the welspring of life, to turne away from the snares of death.

15 Good vnderstanding maketh acceptable: but the way of the disobedient is hated. 16 Euery wise man will worke by knowledge: but a foole will spread abroade folly. 17 A wicked messenger falleth into euill: but a faithfull ambassadour is preseruacion. 18 Pouertie and shame is to him that refuseth instruction: but hee that regardeth correction, shalbe honoured. 19 A desire accomplished deliteth ye soule: but it is an abomination to fooles to depart from euil. 20 He that walketh with the wise, shalbe wise: but a companion of fooles shalbe afflicted. 21 Affliction followeth sinners: but vnto the righteous God will recompense good. 22 The good man shall giue inheritance vnto his childrens children: and the riches of the sinner is layde vp for the iust. 23 Much foode is in the fielde of the poore: but the fielde is destroyed without discretion. 24 He that spareth his rodde, hateth his sonne: but he that loueth him, chasteneth him betime. 25 The righteous eateth to the contentation of his minde: but the belly of the wicked shall want.

14

1 A wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish destroyeth it with her owne handes. 2 He that walketh in his righteousnes, feareth the Lord: but he that is lewde in his wayes, despiseth him. 3 In the mouth of the foolish is the rod of pride: but the lippes of the wise preserue them. 4 Where none oxen are, there the cribbe is emptie: but much increase cometh by the strength of the oxe. 5 A faithfull witnes will

not lye: but a false record will speake lyes.
⁶ A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easie to him that will vnderstande. ⁷ Depart from the foolish man, when thou perceiuest not in him the lippes of knowledge. ⁸ The wisdom of ye prudent is to vnderstand his way: but the foolishnes of the fooles is deceite. ⁹ The foole maketh a mocke of sinne: but among the righteous there is fauour. ¹⁰ The heart knoweth the bitternes of his soule, and the stranger shall not medle with his ioy. ¹¹ The house of the wicked shalbe destroyed: but the tabernacle of the righteous shall flourish. ¹² There is a way that seemeth right to a man: but the issues thereof are the wayes of death. ¹³ Euen in laughing the heart is sorrowful, and the ende of that mirth is heauinesse. ¹⁴ The heart that declineth, shall be sate with his owne wayes: but a good man shall depart from him. ¹⁵ The foolish will beleue euery thing: but the prudent will consider his steppes. ¹⁶ A wise man feareth, and departeth from euill: but a foole rageth, and is carelesse. ¹⁷ He that is hastie to anger, committeth follie, and a busie body is hated. ¹⁸ The foolish do inherite follie: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge. ¹⁹ The euill shall bowe before the good, and the wicked at the gates of the righteous. ²⁰ The poore is hated euen of his own neighbour: but the friendes of the rich are many. ²¹ The sinner despiseth his neighbour: but he that hath mercie on the poore, is blessed. ²² Doe not they erre that imagine euill? but to them that thinke on good things, shalbe mercie

and trueth. ²³ In all labour there is abundance: but the talke of the lippes bringeth onely want. ²⁴ The crowne of the wise is their riches, and the follie of fooles is foolishnes. ²⁵ A faithfull witnes deliuereth soules: but a deceiuer speaketh lyes. ²⁶ In the feare of the Lord is an assured strength, and his children shall haue hope. ²⁷ The feare of the Lord is as a welspring of life, to auoyde the snares of death. ²⁸ In the multitude of the people is the honour of a King, and for the want of people commeth the destruction of the Prince. ²⁹ He that is slowe to wrath, is of great wisdom: but he that is of an hastie minde, exalteth follie. ³⁰ A sounde heart is the life of the flesh: but enuie is the rotting of the bones. ³¹ He that oppresseth the poore, reprooueth him that made him: but hee honoureth him, that hath mercie on the poore. ³² The wicked shall be cast away for his malice: but the righteous hath hope in his death. ³³ Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath vnderstanding, and is knowen in the mids of fooles. ³⁴ Iustice exalteth a nation, but sinne is a shame to the people. ³⁵ The pleasure of a King is in a wise seruant: but his wrath shalbe toward him that is lewde.

15

¹ A soft answer putteth away wrath: but griuous wordes stirre vp anger. ² The tongue of the wise vseth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fooles babbleth out foolishnesse. ³ The eyes of the Lord in euery place beholde the euill and the good. ⁴ A wholesome tongue is as a tree of life: but the frowardnes therof is the breaking

of ye minde. ⁵ A foole despiseth his fathers instruction: but he that regardeth correction, is prudent. ⁶ The house of the righteous hath much treasure: but in the reuenues of the wicked is trouble. ⁷ The lippes of the wise doe spread abroad knowledge: but ye heart of the foolish doth not so. ⁸ The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination to the Lord: but the prayer of the righteous is acceptable vnto him. ⁹ The way of the wicked is an abomination vnto the Lord: but he loueth him that followeth righteousnes. ¹⁰ Instruction is euill to him that forsaketh the way, and he that hateth correction, shall die. ¹¹ Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more the hearts of the sonnes of men? ¹² A scorner loueth not him that rebuketh him, neither will he goe vnto the wise. ¹³ A ioyfull heart maketh a chearefull countenance: but by the sorow of the heart the minde is heauie. ¹⁴ The heart of him that hath vnderstanding, seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of the foole is fedde with foolishnes. ¹⁵ All the dayes of the afflicted are euill: but a good conscience is a continuall feast. ¹⁶ Better is a litle with the feare of the Lord, then great treasure, and trouble therewith. ¹⁷ Better is a dinner of greene herbes where loue is, then a stalled oxe and hatred therewith. ¹⁸ An angrie man stirreth vp strife: but hee that is slowe to wrath, appeaseth strife. ¹⁹ The way of a slouthfull man is as an hedge of thornes: but the way of the righteous is plaine. ²⁰ A wise sonne reioyceth the father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother. ²¹ Foolishnes is ioy to him that is destitute of vnderstanding: but a man

of vnderstanding walketh vprightly. ²² Without
cousel thoughts come to nought: but in the
multitude of counsellors there is stedfastnesse.
²³ A ioy commeth to a man by the answere of
his mouth: and how good is a word in due
season? ²⁴ The way of life is on high to the
prudent, to auoyde from hell beneath. ²⁵ The
Lord will destroye the house of the proude men:
but hee will stablsh the borders of the widowe.
²⁶ The thoughts of ye wicked are abomination to
the Lord: but the pure haue pleasant wordes.
²⁷ He that is greedie of gaine, troubleth his owne
house: but he that hateth giftes, shall liue. ²⁸ The
heart of the righteous studieth to answere: but
the wicked mans mouth babbleth euil thinges.
²⁹ The Lord is farre off from the wicked: but
he heareth the prayer of the righteous. ³⁰ The
light of the eyes reioyceth the heart, and a good
name maketh the bones fat. ³¹ The eare that
hearkeneth to the correction of life, shall lodge
among the wise. ³² Hee that refuseth instruction,
despiseth his owne soule: but he that obeyeth
correction, getteth vnderstanding. ³³ The feare
of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom: and
before honour, goeth humilitie.

16

¹ The preparations of the heart are in man: but
the answere of the tongue is of the Lord. ² All
the wayes of a man are cleane in his owne eyes:
but the Lord pondereth the spirits. ³ Commit thy
workes vnto the Lord, and thy thoughts shalbe
directed. ⁴ The Lord hath made all things for

his owne sake: yea, euen the wicked for the day of euill. ⁵ All that are proude in heart, are an abomination to the Lord: though hand ioyne in hand, he shall not be vnpunished. ⁶ By mercy and trueth iniquitie shalbe forgiuen, and by the feare of the Lord they depart from euill. ⁷ When the wayes of a man please the Lord, he will make also his enemies at peace with him. ⁸ Better is a litle with righteousnesse, then great reuenues without equitie. ⁹ The heart of man purposeth his way: but the Lord doeth direct his steppes. ¹⁰ A diuine sentence shalbe in the lips of the King: his mouth shall not transgresse in iudgement. ¹¹ A true weight and balance are of the Lord: all the weightes of the bagge are his worke. ¹² It is an abomination to Kings to commit wickednes: for the throne is stablished by iustice. ¹³ Righteous lips are the delite of Kings, and the King loueth him that speaketh right things. ¹⁴ The wrath of a King is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacifie it. ¹⁵ In the light of the Kings countenance is life: and his fauour is as a cloude of the latter raine. ¹⁶ Howe much better is it to get wisdom then golde? and to get vnderstanding, is more to be desired then siluer. ¹⁷ The path of the righteous is to decline from euil, and hee keepeth his soule, that keepeth his way. ¹⁸ Pride goeth before destruction, and an high minde before the fall. ¹⁹ Better it is to be of humble minde with the lowly, then to deuide the spoyles with the proude. ²⁰ He that is wise in his busines, shall finde good: and he

that trusteth in the Lord, he is blessed. ²¹ The wise in heart shall bee called prudent: and the sweetnesse of the lippes shall increase doctrine. ²² Vnderstanding is welspring of life vnto them that haue it: and the instruction of fooles is folly. ²³ The heart of the wise guideth his mouth wisely, and addeth doctrine to his lippes. ²⁴ Faire wordes are as an hony combe, sweetnesse to the soule, and health to the bones. ²⁵ There is a way that seemeth right vnto man: but the issue thereof are the wayes of death. ²⁶ The person that traueileth, traueileth for himselfe: for his mouth craueth it of him. ²⁷ A wicked man diggeth vp euill, and in his lippes is like burning fire. ²⁸ A frowarde person soweth strife: and a tale teller maketh diuision among princes. ²⁹ A wicked man deceiueth his neighbour, and leadeth him into the way that is not good. ³⁰ He shutteth his eyes to devise wickednes: he moueth his lippes, and bringeth euil to passe. ³¹ Age is a crowne of glory, when it is founde in the way of righteousnes. ³² He that is slowe vnto anger, is better then the mightie man: and hee that ruleth his owne minde, is better then he that winneth a citie. ³³ The lot is cast into the lap: but the whole disposition thereof is of the Lord.

17

¹ Better is a dry morsell, if peace be with it, then an house full of sacrifices with strife. ² A discrete seruant shall haue rule ouer a lewde sonne, and hee shall deuide the heritage among the brethren. ³ As is the fining pot for siluer,

and the furnace for golde, so the Lord trieth the heartes. ⁴ The wicked giueth heed to false lippes, and a lyer hearkeneth to the naughtie tongue. ⁵ Hee that mocketh the poore, reprocheth him, that made him: and he that reioyceth at destruction, shall not be vnpunished. ⁶ Childres children are the crowne of the elders: and the glory of ye children are their fathers. ⁷ Hie talke becommeth not a foole, much lesse a lying talke a prince. ⁸ A rewarde is as a stone pleasant in the eyes of them that haue it: it prospereth, whithersoouer it turneth. ⁹ Hee that couereth a transgression, seeketh loue: but hee that repeateth a matter, separateth the prince. ¹⁰ A reproofe entereth more into him that hath vnderstanding, then an hundreth stripes into a foole. ¹¹ A sedicious person seeketh onely euill, and a cruel messenger shall be sent against him. ¹² It is better for a man to meete a beare robbed of her whelpes, then a foole in his follie. ¹³ He that rewardeth euil for good, euil shall not depart from his house. ¹⁴ The beginning of strife is as one that openeth the waters: therefore or the contention be medled with, leaue off. ¹⁵ He that iustifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the iust, euen they both are abomination to the Lord. ¹⁶ Wherefore is there a price in the hand of the foole to get wisdome, and he hath none heart? ¹⁷ A friende loueth at all times: and a brother is borne for aduersitie. ¹⁸ A man destitute of vnderstanding, toucheth the hande, and becommeth suretie for his neighbour. ¹⁹ He loueth transgression, that loueth strife: and he

that exalteth his gate, seeketh destruction. ²⁰ The froward heart findeth no good: and he that hath a naughtie tongue, shall fall into euill. ²¹ He that begetteth a foole, getteth himselfe sorow, and the father of a foole can haue no ioy. ²² A ioyfull heart causeth good health: but a sorowfull minde dryeth the bones. ²³ A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosome to wrest the wayes of iudgement. ²⁴ Wisdome is in the face of him that hath vnderstanding: but the eyes of a foole are in the corners of the world. ²⁵ A foolish sonne is a grieffe vnto his father, and a heauines to her that bare him. ²⁶ Surely it is not good to condemne the iust, nor that ye princes should smite such for equitie. ²⁷ Hee that hath knowledge, spareth his wordes, and a man of vnderstanding is of an excellent spirit. ²⁸ Euen a foole (when he holdeth his peace) is counted wise, and hee that stoppeth his lips, prudent.

18

¹ For the desire thereof hee will separate himselfe to seeke it, and occupie himselfe in all wisdome. ² A foole hath no delite in vnderstanding: but that his heart may be discouered. ³ When the wicked commeth, then commeth contempt, and with the vile man reproch. ⁴ The words of a mans mouth are like deepe waters, and the welspring of wisdome is like a flowing riuier. ⁵ It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to cause ye righteous to fall in iudgement. ⁶ A fooles lips come with strife, and his mouth calleth for stripes. ⁷ A fooles mouth is

his owne destruction, and his lips are a snare for his soule. ⁸ The wordes of a tale bearer are as flatterings, and they goe downe into the bowels of the belly. ⁹ He also that is slouthfull in his worke, is euen the brother of him that is a great waster. ¹⁰ The Name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth vnto it, and is exalted. ¹¹ The rich mans riches are his strong citie: and as an hie wall in his imagination. ¹² Before destruction the heart of a man is hautie, and before glory goeth lowlines. ¹³ He that answereth a matter before hee heare it, it is folly and shame vnto him. ¹⁴ The spirit of a man will susteine his infirmitie: but a wounded spirit who can beare it? ¹⁵ A wise heart getteth knowledge, and the eare of the wise seeketh learning. ¹⁶ A mans gift enlargeth him, and leadeth him before great men. ¹⁷ He that is first in his owne cause, is iust: then commeth his neighbour, and maketh inquirie of him. ¹⁸ The lot causeth contentions to cease, and maketh a partition among the mightie. ¹⁹ A brother offended is harder to winne then a strong citie, and their contentions are like the barre of a palace. ²⁰ With the fruite of a mans mouth shall his belly be satisfied, and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. ²¹ Death and life are in the power of ye tongue, and they that loue it, shall eate the fruite thereof. ²² He that findeth a wife, findeth a good thing, and receiueth fauour of the Lord. ²³ The poore speaketh with prayers: but the rich answereth roughly. ²⁴ A man that hath friends, ought to shew him selfe friendly: for a friend is neerer

then a brother.

19

¹ Better is the poore that walketh in his vprightnes, then he that abuseth his lips, and is a foole. ² For without knowledge the minde is not good, and he that hasteth with his feete, sinneth. ³ The foolishnesse of a man peruerteth his way, and his heart freateth against the Lord. ⁴ Riches gather many friends: but the poore is separated from his neighbour. ⁵ A false witnes shall not be vnpunished: and he that speaketh lyes, shall not escape. ⁶ Many reuerence the face of the prince, and euery man is friend to him that giueth giftes. ⁷ All the brethren of the poore doe hate him: howe much more will his friends depart farre from him? though hee be instant with wordes, yet they will not. ⁸ He that possesseth vnderstanding, loueth his owne soule, and keepeth wisdome to finde goodnesse. ⁹ A false witnes shall not be vnpunished: and he that speaketh lyes, shall perish. ¹⁰ Pleasure is not comely for a foole, much lesse for a seruant to haue rule ouer princes. ¹¹ The discretion of man deferreth his anger: and his glory is to passe by an offence. ¹² The Kings wrath is like the roaring of a lyon: but his fauour is like the dewe vpon ye grasse. ¹³ A foolish sonne is the calamitie of his father, and the contentions of a wife are like a continuall dropping. ¹⁴ House and riches are the inheritance of the fathers: but a prudent wife commeth of the Lord. ¹⁵ Slouthfulnes causeth to fall asleepe, and a deceitfull person

shall be affamished. ¹⁶ He that keepeth the commandement, keepeth his owne soule: but hee that despiseth his wayes, shall dye. ¹⁷ He that hath mercy vpon the poore, lendeth vnto the Lord: and the Lord will recompense him that which he hath giuen. ¹⁸ Chasten thy sonne while there is hope, and let not thy soule spare for his murmuring. ¹⁹ A man of much anger shall suffer punishment: and though thou deliuer him, yet wil his anger come againe. ²⁰ Heare counsell and receiue instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter ende. ²¹ Many deuises are in a mans heart: but the counsell of the Lord shall stand. ²² That that is to be desired of a man, is his goodnes, and a poore man is better then a lyer. ²³ The feare of the Lord leadeth to life: and he that is filled therewith, shall continue, and shall not be visited with euill. ²⁴ The slouthfull hideth his hand in his bosome, and wil not put it to his mouth againe. ²⁵ Smite a scorner, and the foolish wil beware: and reprove the prudent, and he wil vnderstand knowledge. ²⁶ He that destroyeth his father, or chaseth away his mother, is a lewde and shamefull childe. ²⁷ My sonne, heare no more the instruction, that causeth to erre from ye words of knowledge. ²⁸ A wicked witnes mocketh at iudgement, and the mouth of ye wicked swalloweth vp iniquitie. ²⁹ But iudgements are prepared for the scornors, and stripes for the backe of the fooles.

20

¹ Wine is a mocker and strong drinke is raging:

and whosoever is deceived thereby, is not wise. ² The feare of the King is like the roaring of a lyon: hee that prouoketh him vnto anger, sinneth against his owne soule. ³ It is a mans honour to cease from strife: but euery foole will be meddling. ⁴ The slouthfull will not plowe, because of winter: therefore shall he beg in sommer, but haue nothing. ⁵ The counsell in the heart of man is like deepe waters: but a man that hath vnderstanding, will drawe it out. ⁶ Many men wil boast, euery one of his owne goodnes: but who can finde a faithfull man? ⁷ He that walketh in his integritie, is iust: and blessed shall his children be after him. ⁸ A King that sitteth in the throne of iudgement, chaseth away all euill with his eyes. ⁹ Who can say, I haue made mine heart cleane, I am cleane from my sinne? ¹⁰ Diuers weightes, and diuers measures, both these are euen abomination vnto the Lord. ¹¹ A childe also is knowen by his doings, whether his worke be pure and right. ¹² The Lord hath made both these, euen the eare to heare, and the eye to see. ¹³ Loue not sleepe least thou come vnto pouertie: open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread. ¹⁴ It is naught, it is naught, sayth the buyer: but when he is gone apart, he boasteth. ¹⁵ There is golde, and a multitude of precious stones: but the lips of knowledge are a precious iewel. ¹⁶ Take his garment, that is suretie for a stranger, and a pledge of him for the stranger. ¹⁷ The bread of deceit is sweete to a man: but afterward his mouth shalbe filled with grauel. ¹⁸ Establish the

thoughtes by counsell: and by counsell make warre. ¹⁹ He that goeth about as a slanderer, discovereth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips. ²⁰ He that curseth his father or his mother, his light shalbe put out in obscure darkenes. ²¹ An heritage is hastily gotten at the beginning, but the end thereof shall not be blessed. ²² Say not thou, I wil recompense euill: but waite vpon the Lord, and he shall saue thee. ²³ Diuers weightes are an abomination vnto the Lord, and deceitful balances are not good. ²⁴ The steps of man are ruled by the Lord: how can a man then vnderstand his owne way? ²⁵ It is a destruction for a man to deuoure that which is sanctified, and after the voves to inquire. ²⁶ A wise King scattereth the wicked, and causeth the wheele to turne ouer them. ²⁷ The light of the Lord is the breath of man, and searcheth all the bowels of the belly. ²⁸ Mercie and trueth preserue the King: for his throne shall be established with mercie. ²⁹ The beautie of yong men is their strength, and the glory of the aged is the gray head. ³⁰ The blewnes of the wound serueth to purge the euill, and the stripes within the bowels of the belly.

21

¹ The Kings heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the riuers of waters: he turneth it whithersoouer it pleaseth him. ² Euery way of a man is right in his owne eyes: but the Lord pondereth the hearts. ³ To doe iustice and iudgement is more acceptable to the Lord then sacrifice. ⁴ A hautie

looke, and a proude heart, which is the light of the wicked, is sinne. ⁵ The thoughtes of the diligent doe surely bring abundance: but whosoeuer is hastie, commeth surely to pouertie. ⁶ The gathering of treasures by a deceitfull tongue is vanitie tossed to and from of them that seeke death. ⁷ The robberie of the wicked shall destroy them: for they haue refused to execute iudgement. ⁸ The way of some is peruerted and strange: but of the pure man, his worke is right. ⁹ It is better to dwell in a corner of the house top, then with a contentious woman in a wide house. ¹⁰ The soule of the wicked wisheth euill: and his neighbour hath no fauour in his eyes. ¹¹ When the scorner is punished, the foolish is wise: and when one instructeth the wise, he wil receiue knowledge. ¹² The righteous teacheth the house of the wicked: but God ouerthroweth the wicked for their euill. ¹³ He that stoppeth his eare at the crying of the poore, he shall also cry and not be heard. ¹⁴ A gift in secret pacifieth anger, and a gift in the bosome great wrath. ¹⁵ It is ioye to the iust to doe iudgement: but destruction shalbe to the workers of iniquitie. ¹⁶ A man that wandreth out of the way of wisdome, shall remaine in the congregation of the dead. ¹⁷ Hee that loueth pastime, shalbe a poore man: and he that loueth wine and oyle, shall not be riche. ¹⁸ The wicked shalbe a ransome for the iust, and the transgressour for the righteous. ¹⁹ It is better to dwell in the wildernesse, then with a contentious and angry woman. ²⁰ In the house of the wise is a pleasant treasure and oyle: but a

foolish man deuoureth it. ²¹ He that followeth after righteousnes and mercy, shall finde life, righteousnes, and glory. ²² A wise man goeth vp into the cite of the mightie, and casteth downe the strength of the confidence thereof. ²³ He that keepeth his mouth and his tongue, keepeth his soule from afflictions. ²⁴ Proude, hautie and scornefull is his name that worketh in his arrogancie wrath. ²⁵ The desire of the slouthfull slayeth him: for his hands refuse to worke. ²⁶ He coueteth euermore greedily, but the righteous giueth and spareth not. ²⁷ The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination: how much more when he bringeth it with a wicked minde? ²⁸ A false witnes shall perish: but hee that heareth, speaketh continually. ²⁹ A wicked man hardeneth his face: but the iust, he will direct his way. ³⁰ There is no wisdom, neither vnderstanding, nor counsell against the Lord. ³¹ The horse is prepared against the day of battell: but saluation is of the Lord.

22

¹ A good name is to be chosen aboue great riches, and louing fauour is aboue siluer and aboue golde. ² The rich and poore meete together: the Lord is the maker of them all. ³ A prudent man seeth the plague, and hideth himselfe: but the foolish goe on still, and are punished. ⁴ The rewarde of humilitie, and the feare of God is riches, and glory, and life. ⁵ Thornes and snares are in the way of the frowarde: but he that regardeth his soule, will

depart farre from them. ⁶ Teache a childe in the trade of his way, and when he is olde, he shall not depart from it. ⁷ The rich ruleth the poore, and the borower is seruant to the man that lendeth. ⁸ He that soweth iniquitie, shall reape affliction, and the rodde of his anger shall faile. ⁹ He that hath a good eye, he shalbe blessed: for he giueth of his bread vnto the poore. ¹⁰ Cast out the scorner, and strife shall go out: so contention and reproche shall cease. ¹¹ Hee that loueth purenesse of heart for the grace of his lippes, the King shalbe his friend. ¹² The eyes of the Lord preserue knowledge: but hee ouerthroweth the wordes of the transgressour. ¹³ The slouthfull man saith, A lyon is without, I shall be slaine in the streete. ¹⁴ The mouth of strage women is as a deepe pit: he with whom the Lord is angry, shall fall therein. ¹⁵ Foolishnesse is bounde in the heart of a childe: but the rodde of correction shall driue it away from him. ¹⁶ Hee that oppresseth the poore to increase him selfe, and giueth vnto the riche, shall surely come to pouertie. ¹⁷ Incline thine eare, and heare the wordes of the wise, and apply thine heart vnto my knowledge. ¹⁸ For it shalbe pleasant, if thou keepe them in thy bellie, and if they be directed together in thy lippes. ¹⁹ That thy confidence may be in the Lord, I haue shewed thee this day: thou therefore take heede. ²⁰ Haue not I written vnto thee three times in counsels and knowledge, ²¹ That I might shewe thee the assurance of the wordes of trueth to answeere the wordes of trueth to them that sende to thee? ²² Robbe not the

poore, because hee is poore, neither oppresse the afflicted in iudgement. ²³ For the Lord will defende their cause, and spoyle the soule of those that spoyle them. ²⁴ Make no friendship with an angrie man, neither goe with the furious man, ²⁵ Least thou learne his wayes, and receiue destruction to thy soule. ²⁶ Be not thou of them that touch the hand, nor among them that are suretie for debts. ²⁷ If thou hast nothing to paye, why causeth thou that he should take thy bed from vnder thee? ²⁸ Thou shalt not remooue the ancient bounds which thy fathers haue made. ²⁹ Thou seest that a diligent man in his businesse standeth before Kings, and standeth not before the base sort.

23

¹ When thou sittest to eate with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee, ² And put the knife to thy throte, if thou be a man giuen to the appetite. ³ Be not desirous of his deintie meates: for it is a deceiuable meate. ⁴ Trauaile not too much to be rich: but cease from thy wisdome. ⁵ Wilt thou cast thine eyes vpon it, which is nothing? for riches taketh her to her wings, as an eagle, and flyeth into the heauen. ⁶ Eate thou not the bread of him that hath an euil eye, neither desire his deintie meates. ⁷ For as though he thought it in his heart, so will hee say vnto thee, Eate and drinke: but his heart is not with thee. ⁸ Thou shalt vomit thy morsels that thou hast eaten, and thou shalt lose thy sweete wordes. ⁹ Speake not in the eares of a

foole: for hee will despise the wisdome of thy wordes. ¹⁰ Remouue not the ancient boundes, and enter not into the fieldes of the fatherlesse. ¹¹ For he that redeemeth them, is mightie: he will defend their cause against thee. ¹² Apply thine heart to instruction, and thine eares to the wordes of knowledge. ¹³ Withhold not correction from the childe: if thou smite him with the rodde, he shall not die. ¹⁴ Thou shalt smite him with the rodde, and shalt deliuer his soule from hell. ¹⁵ My sonne, if thine heart be wise, mine heart shall reioyce, and I also. ¹⁶ And my reynes shall reioyce, when thy lips speake righteous things. ¹⁷ Let not thine heart bee enuious against sinners: but let it bee in the feare of the Lord continually. ¹⁸ For surely there is an ende, and thy hope shall not be cut off. ¹⁹ O thou my sonne, heare, and bee wise, and guide thine heart in the way. ²⁰ Keepe not company with drunkards, nor with gluttons. ²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton shall bee poore, and the sleeper shalbe clothed with ragges. ²² Obey thy father that hath begotten thee, and despise not thy mother when she is olde. ²³ Bye the trueth, but sell it not: likewise wisdome, and instruction, and vnderstanding. ²⁴ The father of the righteous shall greatly reioyce, and hee that begetteth a wise childe, shall haue ioy of him. ²⁵ Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall reioyce. ²⁶ My sonne, giue mee thine heart, and let thine eyes delite in my wayes. ²⁷ For a whore is as a deepe ditche, and a strange woman is as a narrowe pitte. ²⁸ Also she lyeth

in wait as for a praye, and she increaseth the transgressers among men. ²⁹ To whome is woe? to whome is sorowe? to whom is strife? to whom is murmuring? to whom are woundes without cause? and to whome is the rednesse of the eyes? ³⁰ Euen to them that tarie long at the wine, to them that goe, and seeke mixt wine. ³¹ Looke not thou vpon the wine, when it is red, and when it sheweth his colour in the cup, or goeth downe pleasantly. ³² In the ende thereof it will bite like a serpent, and hurt like a cockatrice. ³³ Thine eyes shall looke vpon strange women, and thine heart shall speake lewde things. ³⁴ And thou shalt bee as one that sleepeth in the middes of the sea, and as hee that sleepeth in the toppe of the maste. ³⁵ They haue stricken mee, shalt thou say, but I was not sicke: they haue beaten mee, but I knew not, when I awoke: therefore will I seeke it yet still.

24

¹ Be not thou enuious against euill men, neither desire to be with them. ² For their heart imagineth destruction, and their lippes speake mischief. ³ Through wisdom is an house builded, and with vnderstanding it is established. ⁴ And by knowledge shall the chambers bee filled with all precious, and pleasant riches. ⁵ A wise man is strong: for a man of vnderstanding increaseth his strength. ⁶ For with counsel thou shalt enterprise thy warre, and in the multitude of them that can giue counsell, is health. ⁷ Wisdom is hie to a foole: therefore

he can not open his mouth in the gate. ⁸ Hee that imagineth to doe euill, men shall call him an autour of wickednes. ⁹ The wicked thought of a foole is sinne, and the scorner is an abomination vnto men. ¹⁰ If thou bee faint in the day of aduersitie, thy strength is small. ¹¹ Deliuer them that are drawen to death: wilt thou not preserue them that are led to be slaine? ¹² If thou say, Beholde, we knew not of it: he that pondereth the heartes, doeth not hee vnderstand it? and hee that keepeth thy soule, knoweth he it not? will not he also recompense euery man according to his workes? ¹³ My sonne, eate hony, for it is good, and the hony combe, for it is sweete vnto thy mouth. ¹⁴ So shall the knowledge of wisdom be vnto thy soule, if thou finde it, and there shall be an ende, and thine hope shall not be cut off. ¹⁵ Laye no waite, O wicked man, against the house of the righteous, and spoyle not his resting place. ¹⁶ For a iust man falleth seuen times, and riseth againe: but the wicked fall into mischief. ¹⁷ Bee thou not glad when thine enemie falleth, and let not thine heart reioyce when hee stumbleth, ¹⁸ Least the Lord see it, and it displease him, and he turne his wrath from him. ¹⁹ Fret not thy selfe because of the malicious, neither be enuious at the wicked. ²⁰ For there shall bee none ende of plagues to the euill man: the light of the wicked shall bee put out. ²¹ My sonne feare the Lord, and the King, and meddle not with them that are sedicious. ²² For their destruction shall rise suddenly, and who knoweth the ruine of them both? ²³ ALSO

THESE THINGS PERTEINE TO THE WISE, It is not good to haue respect of any person in iudgement. ²⁴ He that saith to the wicked, Thou art righteous, him shall the people curse, and the multitude shall abhorre him. ²⁵ But to them that rebuke him, shall be pleasure, and vpon them shall come the blessing of goodnesse. ²⁶ They shall kisse the lippes of him that answereth vpright wordes. ²⁷ Prepare thy worke without, and make readie thy thinges in the felde, and after, bulde thine house. ²⁸ Be not a witnes against thy neighbour without cause: for wilt thou deceiue with thy lippes? ²⁹ Say not, I wil doe to him, as he hath done to mee, I will recompence euery man according to his worke. ³⁰ I passed by the felde of the slouthfull, and by the vineyarde of the man destitute of vnderstanding. ³¹ And lo, it was al growen ouer with thornes, and nettles had couered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken downe. ³² Then I behelde, and I considered it well: I looked vpon it, and receiued instruction. ³³ Yet a litle sleepe, a litle slumber, a litle folding of the handes to sleepe. ³⁴ So thy pouertie commeth as one that traueileth by the way, and thy necessitie like an armed man.

25

¹ THESE ARE ALSO PARABLES of Salomon, which the men of Hezekiah King of Iudah copied out. ² The glorie of God is to conceale a thing secret: but the Kings honour is to search out a thing. ³ The heaues in height, and the earth

in deepenes, and the Kings heart can no man search out. ⁴ Take the drosse from the siluer, and there shall procede a vessell for the finer. ⁵ Take away the wicked from the King, and his throne shall be stablished in righteousnes. ⁶ Boast not thy selfe before the King, and stand not in the place of great men. ⁷ For it is better, that it be saide vnto thee, Come vp hither, then thou to be put lower in the presece of the prince whom thine eyes haue seene. ⁸ Goe not foorth hastily to strife, least thou know not what to doe in the ende thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame. ⁹ Debate thy matter with thy neighbour, and discouer not the secret to another, ¹⁰ Least he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine infamie doe not cease. ¹¹ A word spoken in his place, is like apples of golde with pictures of siluer. ¹² He that reprooueth the wise, and the obedient eare, is as a golden earering and an ornament of fine golde. ¹³ As the colde of the snowe in the time of haruest, so is a faithfull messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soule of his masters. ¹⁴ A man that boasteth of false liberalitie, is like cloudes and winde without raine. ¹⁵ A Prince is pacified by staying of anger, and a soft tongue breaketh the bones. ¹⁶ If thou haue found hony, eate that is sufficient for thee, least thou be ouerfull, and vomit it. ¹⁷ Withdrawe thy foote from thy neighbours house, least he be weary of thee, and hate thee. ¹⁸ A man that beareth false witnes against his neighbour, is like an hammer and a sword, and a sharpe arrowe. ¹⁹ Confidence in

an vnfaithfull man in time of trouble, is like a broken tooth and a sliding foote. ²⁰ Hee that taketh away the garment in the colde season, is like vineger powred vpon nitre, or like him that singeth songs to an heauy heart. ²¹ If hee that hateth thee be hungry, giue him bread to eate, and if he be thirstie, giue him water to drinke. ²² For thou shalt lay coles vpon his head, and the Lord shall recompense thee. ²³ As the Northwinde driueth away the raine, so doeth an angry countenance the slandering tongue. ²⁴ It is better to dwell in a corner of the house top, then with a contentious woman in a wide house. ²⁵ As are the colde waters to a weary soule, so is good newes from a farre cuntry. ²⁶ A righteous man falling downe before the wicked, is like a troubled well, and a corrupt spring. ²⁷ It is not good to eate much hony: so to search their owne glory is not glory. ²⁸ A man that refraineth not his appetite, is like a citie which is broken downe and without walles.

26

¹ As the snowe in the sommer, and as the raine in the haruest are not meete, so is honour vnseemely for a foole. ² As the sparowe by flying, and the swallow by flying escape, so the curse that is causeles, shall not come. ³ Vnto the horse belongeth a whip, to the asse a bridle, and a rod to the fooles backe. ⁴ Answer not a foole according to his foolishnes, least thou also be like him. ⁵ Answer a foole according to his foolishnes, least he be wise in his owne conceite.

⁶ He that sendeth a message by the hand of a foole, is as he that cutteth off the feete, and drinketh iniquitie. ⁷ As they that lift vp the legs of the lame, so is a parable in a fooles mouth. ⁸ As the closing vp of a precious stone in an heape of stones, so is he that giueth glory to a foole. ⁹ As a thorne standing vp in the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fooles. ¹⁰ The excellent that formed all things, both rewardeth the foole and rewardeth the transgressors. ¹¹ As a dog turneth againe to his owne vomit, so a foole turneth to his foolishnes. ¹² Seest thou a man wise in his owne conceite? more hope is of a foole then of him. ¹³ The slouthfull man sayth, A lyon is in the way: a lyon is in the streetes. ¹⁴ As the doore turneth vpon his hinges, so doeth the slouthfull man vpon his bed. ¹⁵ The slouthfull hideth his hand in his bosome, and it griueth him to put it againe to his mouth. ¹⁶ The sluggard is wiser in his owne conceite, then seuen men that can render a reason. ¹⁷ He that passeth by and medleth with the strife that belongeth not vnto him, is as one that taketh a dog by the eares. ¹⁸ As he that faineth himselfe mad, casteth fire brands, arrowes, and mortall things, ¹⁹ So dealeth the deceitfull man with his friend and sayth, Am not I in sport? ²⁰ Without wood the fire is quenched, and without a talebearer strife ceaseth. ²¹ As ye cole maketh burning coles, and wood a fire, so the contentious man is apt to kindle strife. ²² The wordes of a tale bearer are as flatterings, and they goe downe into the bowels of the belly. ²³ As siluer drosse ouerlayde vpon

a potsheard, so are burning lips, and an euill heart. ²⁴ He that hateth, will counterfaite with his lips, but in his heart he layeth vp deceite. ²⁵ Though he speake fauourably, beleue him not: for there are seuen abominations in his heart. ²⁶ Hatred may be couered by deceite: but the malice thereof shall be discovered in the congregation. ²⁷ He that diggeth a pit shall fall therein, and he that rolleth a stone, it shall returne vnto him. ²⁸ A false tongue hateth the afflicted, and a flattering mouth causeth ruine.

27

¹ Boast not thy selfe of to morowe: for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. ² Let another man prayse thee, and not thine owne mouth: a stranger, and not thine owne lips. ³ A stone is heauie, and the sand weightie: but a fooles wrath is heauier then them both. ⁴ Anger is cruell, and wrath is raging: but who can stand before enuie? ⁵ Open rebuke is better then secret loue. ⁶ The wounds of a louer are faithful, and the kisses of anemie are pleasant. ⁷ The person that is full, despiseth an hony combe: but vnto the hungry soule euery bitter thing is sweete. ⁸ As a bird that wandreth from her nest, so is a man that wandreth from his owne place. ⁹ As oyntment and perfume reioyce the heart, so doeth the sweetenes of a mans friend by hearty counsell. ¹⁰ Thine owne friend and thy fathers friend forsake thou not: neither enter into thy brothers house in the day of thy calamitie: for better is a neighbour that is neere, then a brother

farre off. ¹¹ My sonne, be wise, and reioyce mine heart, that I may answere him that reprocheth me. ¹² A prudent man seeth the plague, and hideth himselfe: but the foolish goe on still, and are punished. ¹³ Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and a pledge of him for the stranger. ¹⁴ He that prayseth his friend with a loude voyce, rising earely in the morning, it shall be counted to him as a curse. ¹⁵ A continual dropping in the day of raine, and a contentious woman are alike. ¹⁶ He that hideth her, hideth the winde, and she is as ye oyle in his right hand, that vttereth it selfe. ¹⁷ Yron sharpeneth yron, so doeth man sharpen the face of his friend. ¹⁸ He that keepeth the fig tree, shall eate the fruite thereof: so he that waiteth vpon his master, shall come to honour. ¹⁹ As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man. ²⁰ The graue and destruction can neuer be full, so the eyes of man can neuer be satisfied. ²¹ As is the fining pot for siluer and the fornace for golde, so is euery man according to his dignitie. ²² Though thou shouldest bray a foole in a mortar among wheate brayed with a pestell, yet will not his foolishnes depart from him. ²³ Be diligent to know ye state of thy flocke, and take heede to the heardes. ²⁴ For riches remaine not alway, nor the crowne from generation to generation. ²⁵ The hey discouereth it selfe, and the grasse appeareth, and the herbes of the mountaines are gathered. ²⁶ The lambes are for thy clothing, and the goates are the price of the field. ²⁷ And let the milke of the goates be sufficient for thy

foode, for the foode of thy familie, and for the sustenance of thy maydes.

28

¹ The wicked flee when none pursueth: but the righteous are bolde as a lyon. ² For the transgression of the land there are many princes thereof: but by a man of vnderstanding and knowledge a realme likewise endureth long. ³ A poore man, if he oppresse the poore, is like a raging raine, that leaueth no foode. ⁴ They that forsake the Law, prayse the wicked: but they that keepe the Law, set themselues against them. ⁵ Wicked men vnderstand not iudgemnt: but they that seeke the Lord vnderstand all things. ⁶ Better is the poore that walketh in his vprightnesse, then hee that peruerteth his wayes, though he be riche. ⁷ He that keepeth the Law, is a childe of vnderstanding: but hee that feedeth the gluttons, shameth his father. ⁸ He that increaseth his riches by vsurie and interest, gathereth them for him that will be mercifull vnto the poore. ⁹ He that turneth away his eare from hearing the Law, euen his prayer shalbe abominable. ¹⁰ He that causeth the righteous to go astray by an euill way, shall fall into his owne pit, and the vpright shall inherite good things. ¹¹ The riche man is wise in his owne conceite: but the poore that hath vnderstanding, can trie him. ¹² When righteous men reioyce, there is great glory: but when the wicked come vp, the man is tried. ¹³ He that hideth his sinnes,

shall not prosper: but he that confesseth, and forsaketh them, shall haue mercy. ¹⁴ Blessed is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart, shall fall into euill. ¹⁵ As a roaring lyon, and an hungry beare, so is a wicked ruler ouer the poore people. ¹⁶ A prince destitute of vnderstanding, is also a great oppressour: but hee that hateth couetousnes, shall prolong his dayes. ¹⁷ A man that doeth violence against the blood of a person, shall flee vnto the graue, and they shall not stay him. ¹⁸ He that walketh vprightly, shalbe saued: but he that is froward in his wayes, shall once fall. ¹⁹ He that tilleth his land, shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth the idle, shall be filled with pouertie. ²⁰ A faythfull man shall abound in blessings, and he that maketh haste to be riche, shall not be innocent. ²¹ To haue respect of persons is not good: for that man will transgresse for a piece of bread. ²² A man with a wicked eye hasteth to riches, and knoweth not, that pouertie shall come vpon him. ²³ He that rebuketh a man, shall finde more fauour at length, then he that flattereth with his tongue. ²⁴ Hee that robbeth his father and mother, and sayth, It is no transgression, is the companion of a man that destroyeth. ²⁵ He that is of a proude heart, stirreth vp strife: but he that trusteth in the Lord, shall be fatte. ²⁶ Hee that trusteth in his owne heart, is a foole: but he that walketh in wisdom, shall be deliuered. ²⁷ He that giueth vnto the poore, shall not lacke: but he that hideth his eyes, shall haue many curses. ²⁸ When the wicked rise

vp, men hide them selues: but when they perish,
ye righteous increase.

29

¹ A man that hardeneth his necke when he is rebuked, shall suddenly be destroyed and can not be cured. ² When the righteous are in authoritie, the people reioyce: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people sigh. ³ A man that loueth wisdom, reioyceth his father: but he that feedeth harlots, wasteth his substance. ⁴ A King by iudgement mainteineth ye countrey: but a man receiuing giftes, destroyeth it. ⁵ A man that flattereth his neighbour, spreadeth a net for his steps. ⁶ In the transgression of an euill man is his snare: but the righteous doeth sing and reioyce. ⁷ The righteous knoweth the cause of the poore: but the wicked regardeth not knowledge. ⁸ Scornefull men bring a citie into a snare: but wise men turne away wrath. ⁹ If a wise man contend with a foolish man, whether he be angry or laugh, there is no rest. ¹⁰ Bloodie men hate him that is vpright: but the iust haue care of his soule. ¹¹ A foole powreth out all his minde: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterward. ¹² Of a prince that hearkeneth to lyes, all his seruants are wicked. ¹³ The poore and the vsurer meete together, and the Lord lighteneth both their eyes. ¹⁴ A King that iudgeth the poore in trueth, his throne shalbe established for euer. ¹⁵ The rodde and correction giue wisdom: but a childe set a libertie, maketh his mother ashamed. ¹⁶ When the wicked are increased, transgression

increaseth: but ye righteous shall see their fall. ¹⁷ Correct thy sonne and he will giue thee rest, and will giue pleasures to thy soule. ¹⁸ Where there is no vision, the people decay: but he that keepeth the Lawe, is blessed. ¹⁹ A seruant will not be chastised with words: though he vnderstand, yet he will not answere. ²⁰ Seest thou a man hastie in his matters? there is more hope of a foole, then of him. ²¹ He that delicately bringeth vp his seruant from youth, at length he will be euen as his sone. ²² An angrie man stirreth vp strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression. ²³ The pride of a man shall bring him lowe: but the humble in spirit shall enioy glory. ²⁴ He that is partner with a thiefe, hateth his owne soule: he heareth cursing, and declareth it not. ²⁵ The feare of man bringeth a snare: but he that trusteth in the Lord, shalbe exalted. ²⁶ Many doe seeke the face of the ruler: but euery mans iudgement commeth from the Lord. ²⁷ A wicked man is abomination to the iust, and he that is vpright in his way, is abomination to the wicked.

30

¹ THE WORDS OF AGUR THE SONNE OF JAKEH. The prophecie which ye man spake vnto Ithiel, euen to Ithiel, and Vcal. ² Surely I am more foolish then any man, and haue not the vnderstanding of a man in me. ³ For I haue not learned wisdom, nor attained to the knowledge of holy things. ⁴ Who hath ascended vp to heauen, and descended? Who hath gathered the winde in his

fist? Who hath bound the waters in a garment? Who hath established all the endes of the world? What is his name, and what is his sonnes name, if thou canst tell? ⁵ Euery worde of God is pure: he is a shield to those, that trust in him. ⁶ Put nothing vnto his wordes, least he reprove thee, and thou be found a lyar. ⁷ Two things haue I required of thee: denie me them not before I die. ⁸ Remooue farre from me vanitie and lyes: giue me not pouertie, nor riches: feede me with foode conuenient for me, ⁹ Least I be full, and denie thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or least I be poore and steale, and take the Name of my God in vaine. ¹⁰ Accuse not a seruant vnto his master, lest he curse thee, when thou hast offended. ¹¹ There is a generation that curseth their father, and doeth not blesse their mother. ¹² There is a generation that are pure in their owne conceite, and yet are not washed from their filthinesse. ¹³ There is a generation, whose eies are hautie, and their eye liddes are lifted vp. ¹⁴ There is a generation, whose teeth are as swordes, and their chawes as kniues to eate vp the afflicted out of the earth, and the poore from among men. ¹⁵ The horse leache hath two daughters which crye, Giue, giue. There be three things that will not be satisfied: yea, foure that say not, It is ynough. ¹⁶ The graue, and the barren wombe, the earth that cannot be satisfied with water, and the fire that sayeth not, It is ynough. ¹⁷ The eye that mocketh his father and despiseth the instruction of his mother, let ye rauens of the valley picke it out, and the yong

eagles eat it. ¹⁸ There be three thinges hid from me: yea, foure that I knowe not, ¹⁹ The way of an eagle in the aire, the way of a serpent vpon a stone, ye way of a ship in ye middes of the sea, and the way of a man with a maide. ²⁰ Such is ye way also of an adulterous woman: she eateth and wipeth her mouth, and sayth, I haue not committed iniquitie. ²¹ For three thinges the earth is moued: yea, for foure it cannot susteine it selfe: ²² For a seruant when he reigneth, and a foole when he is filled with meate, ²³ For the hatefull woman, when she is married, and for a handmaid that is heire to her mistres. ²⁴ These be foure small things in the earth, yet they are wise and full of wisdom: ²⁵ The pismires a people not strong, yet prepare they their meate in sommer: ²⁶ The conies a people not mightie, yet make their houses in the rocke: ²⁷ The grasshopper hath no King, yet goe they forth all by bandes: ²⁸ The spider taketh holde with her handes, and is in Kings palaces. ²⁹ There be three thinges that order well their going: yea, foure are comely in going, ³⁰ A lyon which is strong among beastes, and turneth not at the sight of any: ³¹ A lusty grayhound, and a goate, and a King against whom there is no rising vp. ³² If thou hast bene foolish in lifting thy selfe vp, and if thou hast thought wickedly, lay thine hand vpon thy mouth. ³³ When one churneth milke, he bringeth foorth butter: and he that wringeth his nose, causeth blood to come out: so he that forceth wrath, bringeth foorth strife.

31

¹ THE WORDS OF KING LEMUEL: The prophecie which his mother taught him. ² What my sonne! and what ye sonne of my wombe! and what, O sonne of my desires! ³ Giue not thy strength vnto women, nor thy wayes, which is to destroy Kings. ⁴ It is not for Kings, O Lemuel, it is not for Kings to drink wine nor for princes strog drinke, ⁵ Lest he drinke and forget the decree, and change the iudgement of all the children of affliction. ⁶ Giue ye strong drinke vnto him that is readie to perish, and wine vnto them that haue grieffe of heart. ⁷ Let him drinke, that he may forget his pouertie, and remember his miserie no more. ⁸ Open thy mouth for the domme in the cause of all the children of destruction. ⁹ Open thy mouth: iudge righteously, and iudge the afflicted, and the poore. ¹⁰ Who shall finde a vertuous woman? for her price is farre aboue the pearles. ¹¹ The heart of her husband trusteth in her, and he shall haue no neede of spoyle. ¹² She will doe him good, and not euill all the dayes of her life. ¹³ She seeketh wooll and flaxe, and laboureth cheerefully with her handes. ¹⁴ She is like the shippes of marchants: shee bringeth her foode from afarre. ¹⁵ And she riseth, whiles it is yet night: and giueth the portion to her houshold, and the ordinarie to her maides. ¹⁶ She considereth a field, and getteth it: and with the fruite of her handes she planteth a vineyarde. ¹⁷ She girdeth her loynes with strength, and strengtheneth her armes. ¹⁸ She feeleth that

her marchandise is good: her candle is not put out by night. ¹⁹ She putteth her handes to the wherue, and her handes handle the spindle. ²⁰ She stretcheth out her hand to the poore, and putteth foorth her hands to the needie. ²¹ She feareth not the snowe for her familie: for all her familie is clothed with skarlet. ²² She maketh her selfe carpets: fine linen and purple is her garment. ²³ Her husband is knowen in the gates, when he sitteth with the Elders of the land. ²⁴ She maketh sheetes, and selleth them, and giueth girdels vnto the marchant. ²⁵ Strength and honour is her clothing, and in the latter day she shall reioyce. ²⁶ She openeth her mouth with wisdome, and the lawe of grace is in her tongue. ²⁷ She ouerseeth the wayes of her housholde, and eateth not the bread of ydlenes. ²⁸ Her children rise vp, and call her blessed: her husband also shall prayse her, saying, ²⁹ Many daughters haue done vertuously: but thou surmountest them all. ³⁰ Fauour is deceitfull, and beautie is vanitie: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be prayed. ³¹ Giue her of the fruite of her hands, and let her owne workes prayse her in the gates.

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The Geneva Bible in Old English of 1599

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