

PROVERBS 22

¹ A fair name is better than much wealth, and good favor is above silver and gold.

² The rich and the poor meet together, but the Lord made them both.

³ An intelligent man seeing a bad man severely punished is himself instructed, but fools pass by and are punished.

⁴ The fear of the Lord is the offspring of wisdom, wealth, glory, and life.

⁵ Thistles and snares are in crooked paths, but he that keeps his soul shall avoid them.

⁶ (This verse omitted in LXX)

⁷ The rich will rule over the poor, and servants will lend to their own masters.

⁸ He that sows wickedness shall reap evils, and shall fully receive the punishment of his deeds.

God loves a cheerful and liberal giver; but a man shall fully prove the folly of his works.

⁹ He that has pity on the poor shall himself be maintained, for he has given of his own bread to the poor.

He that gives liberally secures victory and honor, but he takes away the life of them that possess them.

¹⁰ Cast out a pestilent person from the council, and strife shall go out with him; for when he sits in the council he dishonors all.

¹¹ The Lord loves holy hearts, and all blameless persons are acceptable to Him.

A king rules with his lips.

¹² But the eyes of the Lord preserve discretion, but the transgressor despises wise words.

¹³ The sluggard makes excuses, and says, "There is a lion in the road, and murderers in the streets."

¹⁴ The mouth of a transgressor is a deep pit, and he that is hated of the Lord shall fall into it.

Evil ways are before a man, and he does not like to turn away from them, but it is needful to turn aside from a perverse and bad way.

¹⁵ Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod and instruction *will drive it* far from him.

¹⁶ He that oppresses the poor, increases his own wealth, yet gives to the rich to lessen it.

¹⁷ Incline your ear to the words of wise men; hear also my word, and apply your heart,

¹⁸ that you may know that they are good, and if you take them to heart, they shall give you delight and be on your lips;

¹⁹ that your hope may be in the Lord, and He may make your way known to you.

²⁰ And record them repeatedly for yourself on the table of your heart, for counsel and knowledge.

²¹ I therefore teach you truth, and knowledge good to hear, that you may answer words of truth to them that question you.

²² Do no violence to the poor, for he is needy, neither dishonor the helpless man in the gates.

- ²³ For the Lord will plead his cause, and you shall deliver your soul in safety. ²⁴
Have no fellowship with a furious man, neither lodge with a passionate man,
²⁵ lest you learn of his ways, and ensnare your soul.
- ²⁶ Do not become surety out of respect for a person.
- ²⁷ For if those do not have anything to pay, they will take the bed that is under you.
- ²⁸ Do not remove the old landmarks, which your fathers placed.
- ²⁹ **It is fit that an observant man and *one* diligent in his business should attend on kings, and not attend on slothful men.**