

¹إِذَا جَلَسْتَ تَأْكُلُ مَعَ مُتَسَلِّطٍ فَتَأْمَلْ مَا هُوَ أَمَامَكَ
تَأْمَلًا،² وَصَعْ سِكِّينًا لِحَنَجْرَتِكَ إِنْ كُنْتَ شَرِيهَا.³ لَا تَشْتِهَ
أَطَايِبَهُ لِأَنَّهَا خُبْرٌ أَكَادِبٌ.⁴ لَا تَتَعَبَ لِكَيْ تَصِيرَ عَنِيًّا. كَفَّ
عَنْ فِطْنَتِكَ.⁵ هَلْ تُطَيِّرُ عَيْنَيْكَ نَحْوَهُ وَلَيْسَ هُوَ. لَأَنَّهُ إِنَّمَا
يَصْنَعُ لِنَفْسِهِ أَجِيحَةً. كَالنَّسْرِ يَطِيرُ نَحْوَ السَّمَاءِ.⁶ لَا تَأْكُلْ
خُبْرَ ذِي عَيْنٍ شَرِيرَةٍ وَلَا تَشْتِهَ أَطَايِبَهُ.⁷ لَأَنَّهُ كَمَا شَعَرَ
فِي نَفْسِهِ هَكَذَا هُوَ. يَقُولُ لَكَ، كُلْ وَاشْرَبْ وَقَلْبُهُ لَيْسَ
مَعَكَ.⁸ اللَّفْمَةُ الَّتِي أَكَلْتَهَا تَتَقَيَّأُهَا، وَتَخْسَرُ كَلِمَاتِكَ
الْحُلُوهَ.⁹ فِي أَدْنَى جَاهِلٍ لَا تَتَكَلَّمْ لَأَنَّهُ يَحْتَقِرُ حِكْمَةَ
كَلَامِكَ.¹⁰ لَا تُثْقِلِ الثُّخُمَ الْقَدِيمَ، وَلَا تَدْخُلْ خُفُولَ
الْأَيْتَامِ،¹¹ لِأَنَّ وَلِيَّهُمْ قَوِيٌّ. هُوَ يَقِيمُ دَعْوَاهُمْ عَلَيْكَ.¹² وَجْهٌ
قَلْبِكَ إِلَى الْآدَبِ وَأَدْنَيْكَ إِلَى كَلِمَاتِ الْمَعْرِفَةِ.¹³ لَا تَمْنَعْ
النَّادِبَ عَنِ الْوَلَدِ لِأَنَّكَ إِنْ صَرَبْتَهُ بَعْصًا لَا
يَمُوتُ.¹⁴ تَضْرِبُهُ أَنْتَ بَعْصًا فَتَقْنِذُ نَفْسَهُ مِنَ الْهَآوَةِ.¹⁵ يَا
ابْنِي، إِنْ كَانَ قَلْبُكَ حَكِيمًا يَفْرَحْ قَلْبِي أَنَا أَيْضًا،¹⁶ وَتَبْتَهِجْ
كَلِمَاتِي إِذَا تَكَلَّمْتُ شَفَقَاتٍ بِالْمُسْتَقِيمَاتِ.¹⁷ لَا يَحْسِدَنَّ
قَلْبُكَ الْخَاطِئِينَ، بَلْ كُنْ فِي مَخَافَةِ الرَّبِّ الْيَوْمَ
كُلَّهُ.¹⁸ لَأَنَّهُ لَا بُدَّ مِنْ تَوَابٍ، وَرَجَاؤُكَ لَا يَحِبُّ.¹⁹ اِسْمَعْ
أَنْتَ يَا ابْنِي وَكُنْ حَكِيمًا وَأَرْشِدْ قَلْبَكَ فِي الطَّرِيقِ.²⁰ لَا
تَكُنْ بَيْنَ شَرِّبِي الْحَمْرِ، بَيْنَ الْمُثْلِفِينَ أَجْسَادَهُمْ،²¹ لِأَنَّ
السَّكِرَ وَالْمُسْرِفَ يَفْتَقِرَانِ، وَاللُّؤْمُ يَكْسُو
الْجِرْقَ.²² اِسْمَعْ لِأَيِّكَ الَّذِي وَلَدَكَ، وَلَا تَحْتَقِرْ أُمَّكَ إِذَا
سَاحَتْ.²³ أَفْتِنِ الْحَقَّ وَلَا تَبْغِهِ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَالْآدَبَ
وَالْقَهْمَ.²⁴ أَبُو الصَّدِّيقِ يَبْتَهِجُ ابْتِهَاجًا، وَمَنْ وَلَدَ حَكِيمًا
يُسَّرُّ بِهِ.²⁵ يَفْرَحْ أَبُوكَ وَأُمَّكَ وَتَبْتَهِجْ إِلَيْهِ وَلَدُكَ.²⁶ يَا ابْنِي
أَعْطِنِي قَلْبَكَ وَلْتُلَاحِظْ عَيْنَاكَ طَرْفِي. لِأَنَّ الزَّانِيَةَ هُوَّةٌ
عَمِيقَةٌ وَالْأَجْنَبِيَّةُ خُفْرَةٌ ضَيِّقَةٌ.²⁸ هِيَ أَيْضًا كَلِمْ تَكْمُنُ
وَتَزِيدُ الْغَادِرِينَ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ.²⁹ لِمَنِ الْوَيْلُ. لِمَنِ السَّقَاوَةُ.
لِمَنِ الْمُخَاصَمَاتُ. لِمَنِ الْكَرْبُ، لِمَنِ الْجُرُوحُ يَلَا سَبَبٍ.
لِمَنِ الزَّمَهَرَاؤُ الْعَيْنَيْنِ. لِلَّذِينَ يُذَمُّونَ الْحَمْرَ، الَّذِينَ
يَدْخُلُونَ فِي طَلَبِ الشَّرَابِ الْمَمْرُوجِ.³¹ لَا تَنْطُرْ إِلَى
الْحَمْرِ إِذَا احْمَرَّتْ حِينَ تُظْهِرُ جَنَابَهَا فِي الْكَاسِ
وَسَاعَتُ مُرْفَرَقَةٍ.³² فِي الْآخِرِ تَلْسَعُ كَالْحَيَّةِ وَتَلْدَعُ
كَالْأَفْعَوَانِ.³³ عَيْنَاكَ تَنْطُرَانِ الْأَجَنِبَاتِ وَقَلْبُكَ يَنْطَبِئُ
بِأُمُورٍ مُلْتَوِيَةٍ. وَتَكُونُ كَمُضْطَجِعٍ فِي قَلْبِ الْبَحْرِ، أَوْ
كَمُضْطَجِعٍ عَلَى رَأْسِ سَارِيَةٍ.³⁵ يَقُولُ، صَرَبُونِي وَلَمْ
أَتَوْجَعْ. لَقَدْ لَكَأُونِي وَلَمْ أَعْرِفْ. مَتَى أَسْتَقِظُ أَعُوذُ
أَطْلُغُهَا بَعْدُ.

¹When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee:²And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite.³Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are deceitful meat.⁴Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.⁵Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.⁶Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats:⁷For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.⁸The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.⁹Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.¹⁰Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:¹¹For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee.¹²Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.¹³Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.¹⁴Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.¹⁵My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.¹⁶Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things.¹⁷Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.¹⁸For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.¹⁹Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.²⁰Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters

of flesh.²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.²² Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.²³ Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.²⁴ The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.²⁵ Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice.²⁶ My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.²⁷ For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit.²⁸ She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men.²⁹ Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?³⁰ They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.³¹ Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.³² At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.³³ Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.³⁴ Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.³⁵ They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.