

¹هَذِهِ أَيْضاً أَمْثَالُ سَلَيْمَانَ الَّتِي تَقَلَّهَا رِجَالُ حَرْفِيًّا مَلِكُ يَهُودَا، ²مَجْدُ اللَّهِ إِخْفَاءُ الْأَمْرِ، وَمَجْدُ الْمُلُوكِ قَخَصُ الْأَمْرِ. ³السَّمَاءُ لِلْعُلُوِّ، وَالْأَرْضُ لِلْعُمُقِ، وَقُلُوبُ الْمُلُوكِ لَا تُفْخَصُ. ⁴أَزِلِ الرِّعْلَ مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ فَيَخْرُجْ إِتَاءً لِلصَّانِعِ. ⁵أَزِلِ السَّرِيرَ مِنْ قُدَّامِ الْمَلِكِ فَيَبْتَ كُرْسِيِّهِ بِالْعَدْلِ. ⁶لَا تَتَفَاخَرِ أَمَامَ الْمَلِكِ، وَلَا تَقِفْ فِي مَكَانِ الْعُظَمَاءِ، ⁷لَأَنَّهُ خَيْرٌ أَنْ يُقَالَ لَكَ ارْتَفِعْ إِلَى هُنَا مِنْ أَنْ تُخَطَّ فِي خَصْرَةِ الرَّئِيسِ الَّذِي رَأَيْتَ عَيْنَاكَ. ⁸لَا تَبْزُرْ عَاجِلاً إِلَى الْخِصَامِ لِئَلَّا تَفْعَلَ شَيْئاً فِي الْآخِرِ جِبْنَ يُخْزِيكَ قَرِيبُكَ. ⁹اقْمِ دَعْوَاكَ مَعَ قَرِيبِكَ، وَلَا تُخِجْ بِسِرِّ غَيْرِكَ، ¹⁰لِئَلَّا يُغَيِّرَكَ السَّمِيعُ فَلَا تَنْصَرِفَ قَصِيحَتُكَ. ¹¹تَقَاخُ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ فِي مَضُوعٍ مِنْ فِصَّةٍ كَلِمَتُهُ مَقُولُهُ فِي مَخْلَعِهَا. ¹²قُزْطُ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَخُلُيٌّ مِنْ إِبْرِيذِ الْمُوَبِّخِ الْحَكِيمِ لِأَذْنِ سَامِعَةٍ. ¹³كَبُرِدُ التَّلَجِ فِي يَوْمِ الْخَصَادِ الرَّسُولُ الْأَمِينُ لِمُرْسَلِيهِ، لَأَنَّهُ يَرُدُّ نَفْسَ سَادَتِهِ. ¹⁴سَخَابٌ وَرِيحٌ يَلَا مَطَرُ الرَّجُلِ الْمُفْتَخِرِ بِهَدْيِهِ كَذِبٌ. ¹⁵بُطْءُ الْعَصَبِ يَقْتَعِ الرَّئِيسُ، وَاللِّسَانُ اللَّيِّنُ يَكْسِرُ الْعَظَمَ. ¹⁶أَوْجَذَتْ عَسَلًا. فَكُلْ كِفَايَتَكَ، لِئَلَّا تَسْخِمَ فَتَقْتَبَاهُ. ¹⁷اجْعَلْ رِجْلَكَ عَزِيمَةً فِي بَيْتِ قَرِيبِكَ، لِئَلَّا يَمَلَّ مِنْكَ فَيُبْعِضَكَ. ¹⁸مَقْمَعَةٌ وَسَيْفٌ وَسَهْمٌ خَادُّ الرَّجُلِ الْمُحِبِّ قَرِيبَهُ بِشَهَادَةِ زُورٍ. ¹⁹سِرٌّ مَهْنُومَةٌ وَرَجُلٌ مُخْلَعٌ، النَّقْمَةُ بِالْخَائِنِ فِي يَوْمِ الصَّيْقِ. ²⁰كَتَرَعَ التَّوْبِ فِي يَوْمِ الْبُرْدِ، كَحَلٌّ عَلَى تَطْرُوقٍ، مَنْ يُعْتَبِي أَغَانِي لِقَلْبٍ كَنِيبٍ. ²¹إِنْ جَاعَ عَذُوكَ فَاطْعِمُهُ خُبْزاً، وَإِنْ عَطِشَ فَاسْقِهِ مَاءً. ²²قَائِلُكَ تَجْمَعُ جَمِراً عَلَى رَأْسِهِ، وَالرَّبُّ يُجَارِيكَ. ²³رِيحُ الشَّمَالِ تَطْرُدُ الْمَطَرَ، وَالْوَجْهُ الْمُغْسِ بَطْرُدُ لِسَانٍ تَالِباً. ²⁴السُّكْنَى فِي زَاوِيَةِ السَّطْحِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَمْرٍ مُخَاصِمَةٍ فِي بَيْتِ مُسْتَرِكٍ. ²⁵مِيَاهُ بَارِدَةٌ لِنَفْسٍ عَطِشَاتٍ الْخَبْرُ الطَّيِّبُ مِنْ أَرْضٍ بَعِيدَةٍ. ²⁶عَيْنٌ مُكَدَّرَةٌ وَتَبْنُوعٌ قَاسِدٌ، الصَّدِيقُ الْمُنْحَنِي أَمَامَ السَّرِيرِ. ²⁷أَكُلْ كَثِيرٌ مِنَ الْعَسَلِ لَيْسَ بِخَسَنٍ، وَطَلَبُ النَّاسِ مَجْدٌ أَنْفُسِهِمْ ثَقِيلٌ. ²⁸مَدِينَةٌ مُنْهَدِمَةٌ يَلَا سُورِ الرَّجُلِ الَّذِي لَيْسَ لَهُ سُلْطَانٌ عَلَى رُوحِهِ.

¹These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out. ²It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. ³The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable. ⁴Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer. ⁵Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness. ⁶Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men: ⁷For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen. ⁸Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame. ⁹Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another: ¹⁰Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away. ¹¹A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. ¹²As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear. ¹³As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters. ¹⁴Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain. ¹⁵By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone. ¹⁶Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it. ¹⁷Withdraw thy foot from thy

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neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.¹⁸ A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.¹⁹ Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.²⁰ As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.²¹ If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:²² For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.²³ The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.²⁴ It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.²⁵ As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.²⁶ A righteous man falling down before the wicked is as a troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring.²⁷ It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory.²⁸ He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.