

¹يَا ابْنِي، أَصْغِ إِلَى حِكْمَتِي. أَمِلْ أُذُنَكَ إِلَى
فَهْمِي،² لِحْفَظِ التَّنْذِيرِ، وَلِتَحْفَظْ سَفَتَاكَ مَعْرِفَةً.³ لَأَنَّ
سَفَتَيِ الْمَرْأَةِ الْأَجْنِبِيَّةِ تَقْطُرَانِ غَسَلًا، وَحَتَكُهَا أَنْعَمَ مِنَ
الزَّيْتِ.⁴ لَكِنَّ عَاقِبَتَهَا مُرَّةٌ كَالْأَقْسَسِيِّينَ. خَادَهُ كَسِيفٌ ذِي
حَدَّيْنِ.⁵ قَدَمَاهَا تَحْدِرَانِ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ. حَطَوَاتُهَا تَمَسُّكَ
بِالْهَاطِيَةِ.⁶ لَيْلًا تَتَأَمَّلُ طَرِيقَ الْحَيَاةِ. تَمَائِلُكَ حَطَوَاتُهَا وَلَا
تَشْعُرُ.⁷ وَالْآنَ أَهْيَا الْبُيُوتَ اسْمَعُوا لِي، وَلَا تَرْتَدُّوا عَنْ
كَلِمَاتِ قَمِي.⁸ أُنْعِذْ طَرِيقَكَ عَنْهَا وَلَا تَقْرُبْ إِلَى بَابِ
بَيْتِهَا،⁹ لَيْلًا تُعْطِي رَهْرَكَ لِأَخْرِي وَسِينِكَ لِلْقَاسِي.¹⁰ لَيْلًا
تَسْبَعُ الْأَجَانِبُ مِنْ قُوَّتِكَ، وَتَكُونُ أَتْعَابُكَ فِي بَيْتِ
غَرِيبٍ.¹¹ قَتُّوحٌ فِي أَوَاجِرِكَ، عِنْدَ قَتَاءِ لَحْمِكَ
وَجِسْمِكَ،¹² قَتُّوْلٌ، كَيْفَ أَتَى أَبْعَضُ الْأَدَبِ وَرَدَلٌ قُلُوبِي
التَّوْبِيخِ.¹³ وَلَمْ أَسْمَعْ لَصَوْتِ مُرْشِدِي، وَلَمْ أَمِلْ أُذُنِي
إِلَى مُعَلِّمِي.¹⁴ لَوْلَا قَلِيلٌ لَكُنْتُ فِي كُلِّ شَرٍّ فِي وَسْطِ
الرُّمَرَةِ وَالْجَمَاعَةِ.¹⁵ إِشْرَبُ مِيَاهًا مِنْ جُبِّكَ، وَمِيَاهًا
جَارِيَةً مِنْ يَنْحَرٍ.¹⁶ لَا تَفْضُضْ يَتَابِعُكَ إِلَى الْخَارِجِ سَوَاقِي
مِيَاهٍ فِي الشُّوَارِعِ. لَتَكُنْ لَكَ وَحْدَكَ وَلَيْسَ لِأَجَانِبٍ
مَعَكَ.¹⁷ لَتَكُنْ يَنْبُوْعُكَ مُبَارَكًا وَافْرَخَ بِامْرَأَةٍ
سَبَابِكَ،¹⁸ الطَّيِّبَةِ الْمُحْبُوبَةِ وَالْوَعْلَةِ الرَّهْبَةِ. لِيُزَوِّكَ نَدْيَاهَا
فِي كُلِّ وَقْتٍ، وَيَمَحِّبَهَا اسْكُرْ دَائِمًا.¹⁹ قَلِمَادًا تُقْنِي يَا
ابْنِي بِأَجْنِبِيَّةٍ وَتَحْتَصِنُ غَرِيبَةً،²⁰ لَأَنَّ طُرُقَ الْإِنْسَانِ أَمَامَ
عَيْنِي الرَّبِّ، وَهُوَ يَزِنُ كُلَّ سُبُلِهِ.²¹ السَّرِيرُ تَأْخُذُهُ إِنَامُهُ
وَجِبَالُ حَطِيئَتِهِ يُمَسِّكُ.²² إِنَّهُ يَمُوتُ مِنْ عَدَمِ الْأَدَبِ،
وَيَقْرُطُ حُمْقُهُ بَنَهَوْرٍ.

¹My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow
thine ear to my understanding:²That thou
mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips
may keep knowledge.³For the lips of a
strange woman drop as an honeycomb,
and her mouth is smoother than oil:⁴But
her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a
twoedged sword.⁵Her feet go down to
death; her steps take hold on hell.⁶Lest
thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her
ways are moveable, that thou canst not
know them. ⁷Hear me now therefore, O ye
children, and depart not from the words of
my mouth.⁸Remove thy way far from her,
and come not nigh the door of her
house:⁹Lest thou give thine honour unto
others, and thy years unto the cruel:¹⁰Lest
strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy
labours be in the house of a stranger;¹¹And
thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and
thy body are consumed,¹²And say, How
have I hated instruction, and my heart
despised reproof;¹³And have not obeyed
the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine
ear to them that instructed me!¹⁴I was
almost in all evil in the midst of the
congregation and assembly.¹⁵Drink waters
out of thine own cistern, and running
waters out of thine own well.¹⁶Let thy
fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers
of waters in the streets.¹⁷Let them be only
thine own, and not strangers' with
thee.¹⁸Let thy fountain be blessed: and
rejoice with the wife of thy youth.¹⁹Let her
be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let
her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be
thou ravished always with her love.²⁰And
why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a

Proverbs 5

strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?²¹ For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.²² His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.²³ He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.