

¹الْحِكْمَةُ بَنَتْ بَيْتَهَا. تَحَتَّى أَعْمِدَتِهَا السَّبْعَةُ.² دَبَحَتْ دَبَحَهَا. مَرَجَتْ خَمْرَهَا. أَيْضاً رَتَبَتْ مَائِدَتَهَا.³ أَرْسَلَتْ جَوَارِيَهَا تُنَادِي عَلَى طُهُورِ أَعَالِي الْمَدِينَةِ،⁴ مَنْ هُوَ جَاهِلٌ فَلْيَمِلْ إِلَى هُنَا. وَالتَّاقِصُ الْقَهْمُ قَالَتْ لَهُ،⁵ هَلُمُّوا كُلُّوا مِنْ طَعَامِي، وَاشْرَبُوا مِنَ الْخَمْرِ الَّتِي مَرَجْتُهَا.⁶ أَنْزِلُوا إِلَى الْهَوَايَاتِ فَتَحَيُّوا، وَسِيرُوا فِي طَرِيقِ الْقَهْمِ.⁷ مَنْ يُوبِّخُ مُسْتَهْزِئاً يَكْسِبْ لِنَفْسِهِ هَوَاناً، وَمَنْ يُنْذِرُ شَرِّيراً يَكْسِبْ عَيْباً.⁸ لَا تُوبِّخْ مُسْتَهْزِئاً لئَلَّا يُبْغِضَكَ. وَبِخْ حَكِيماً فَيُجِبَكَ.⁹ أَعْطِ حَكِيماً فَيَكُونَ أَوْفَرَ حِكْمَةً. عَلَّمَ صَدِيقاً فَيَزِدَّادَ عِلْماً.¹⁰ بَدْءُ الْحِكْمَةِ مَخَافَةُ الرَّبِّ، وَمَعْرِفَةُ الْفُؤُوسِ قَهُمْ.¹¹ لِأَنَّهُ يَبِي تَكْثُرُ أَبَاؤُكَ وَتَزِدُّ لَكَ سِنُو حَيَاةٍ.¹² إِنْ كُنْتَ حَكِيماً قَالَتْ حَكِيمٌ لِنَفْسِكَ، وَإِنْ اسْتَهْزَأْتَ قَالَتْ وَحْدَكَ تَتَحَمَّلُ.¹³ الْمَرْأَةُ الْجَاهِلَةُ صَحَابَةُ حَمَقَاءُ وَلَا تَذَرِي شَيْئاً،¹⁴ فَتَقْعُدُ عِنْدَ بَابِ بَيْتِهَا عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ فِي أَعَالِي الْمَدِينَةِ¹⁵ لِتُنَادِيَ غَابِرِي السَّبِيلِ الْمُقَوِّمِينَ طُرُقَهُمْ،¹⁶ مَنْ هُوَ جَاهِلٌ فَلْيَمِلْ إِلَى هُنَا. وَالتَّاقِصُ الْقَهْمُ تَقُولُ لَهُ،¹⁷ الْمَيَاهُ الْمَسْرُوفَةُ حُلُوهٌ وَخُبْرُ الْحُقْبَةِ لَذِيذٌ.¹⁸ وَلَا يَعْلَمُ أَنَّ الْأَحْيِلَةَ هُنَاكَ، وَأَنَّ فِي أَعْمَاقِ الْهَوَايَةِ صُيُوفَهَا.

¹Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:² She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table.³ She hath sent forth her maidens: she crieth upon the highest places of the city,⁴ Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,⁵ Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.⁶ Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding.⁷ He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot.⁸ Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.⁹ Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.¹¹ For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.¹² If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it.¹³ A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing.¹⁴ For she sitteth at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city,¹⁵ To call passengers who go right on their ways:¹⁶ Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,¹⁷ Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.¹⁸ But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.