

¹The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; ²To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; ³To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; ⁴To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. ⁵A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: ⁶To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings. ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. ⁸My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: ⁹For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. ¹⁰My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. ¹¹If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: ¹²Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: ¹³We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: ¹⁴Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse: ¹⁵My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: ¹⁶For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. ¹⁷Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. ¹⁸And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives. ¹⁹So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof. ²⁰Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the

¹أَمْثَالُ سُلَيْمَانَ بْنِ دَاوُدَ مَلِكِ إِسْرَائِيلَ، لِمَعْرِفَةِ حِكْمَةٍ وَأَدَبٍ، لِإِدْرَاكِ أَقْوَالِ الْفَهْمِ. ²لِقَبُولِ تَأْدِيبِ الْمَعْرِفَةِ وَالْعَدْلِ وَالْحَقِّ وَالْإِسْتِقَامَةِ. ³لِنُغْطِي الْجَهَالَ ذَكَاءً، وَالشَّبَابَ مَعْرِفَةً وَتَدَبُّراً. ⁴يَسْمَعُهَا الْحَكِيمُ فَيَزِدُّهُ عِلْماً، وَالْفَهِيمُ يَكْتَسِبُ تَذِيباً. ⁵لِقَهْمِ الْمَثَلِ وَاللُّغْزِ، أَقْوَالِ الْحُكَمَاءِ وَعَوَامِصِهِمْ. ⁶مَخَافَةُ الرَّبِّ رَأْسُ الْمَعْرِفَةِ. أَمَّا الْجَاهِلُونَ فَيَحْتَقِرُونَ الْحِكْمَةَ وَالْأَدَبَ. ⁷إِسْمَعْ يَا ابْنِي تَأْدِيبَ أَبِيكَ، وَلَا تَرْفُضْ شَرِيعَةَ أُمِّكَ، ⁸لأنَّهُمَا إِكْلِيلٌ نِعْمَةٌ لِرَأْسِكَ، وَقَلَالِدٌ لِعُنُقِكَ. ⁹يَا ابْنِي، إِنْ تَمَلَّكَ الْخُطَاةُ فَلَا تَرْضَ. ¹⁰إِنْ قَالُوا، هَلُمَّ مَعَنَا لِنَكْتُمَنَّ لِلدَّمِ. لِنَحْتَفِ لِلتَّبْرِيِّ بَاطِلًا. ¹¹لِنَبْتَلِعَهُمْ أَحْيَاءً كَالْهَآوِيَةِ، وَصِيَاحًا كَالْهَاطِطِينَ فِي الْجُبِّ، ¹²فَتَجِدَ كُلُّ فِتْنَةٍ فَاحِرَةً، تَمَلَأُ بُيُوتَنَا غَنِيمَةً. ¹³لِنَلْقِي فُرْعَتَكَ وَسَطْنَا. يَكُونُ لَنَا جَمِيعاً كَيْسٌ وَاحِداً. ¹⁴يَا ابْنِي، لَا تَسْلُكْ فِي الطَّرِيقِ مَعَهُمْ. ائْتَمَّ رَجُلُكَ عَنْ مَسَالِكِهِمْ. ¹⁵لأنَّ أَرْجُلَهُمْ تَجْرِي إِلَى الشَّرِّ وَتُسْرِعُ إِلَى سَفَكِ الدَّمِ. ¹⁶لأنَّهُ بَاطِلًا تُنْصَبُ الشَّبَكَةُ فِي عَيْنِي كُلِّ ذِي حَنَاجٍ. ¹⁷أَمَّا هُمْ فَيَكْتُمُونَ لِدَمِ أَنْفُسِهِمْ، يَحْتَفُونَ لِأَنْفُسِهِمْ. ¹⁸هَكَذَا طَرِيقُ كُلِّ مُوَلِّعٍ يَكْتَسِبُ، يَأْخُذُ نَفْسَ مُفْتِنِيهِ. ¹⁹الْحِكْمَةُ تُنَادِي فِي الْحَارِجِ، فِي الشُّوَارِعِ تُغْطِي صَوْتَهَا. ²⁰تَدْعُو فِي رُؤُوسِ الْأَسْوَاقِ، فِي مَدَاجِلِ الْأَبْوَابِ. فِي الْمَدِينَةِ تُبْذِرُ كَلَامَهَا قَائِلَةً، إِلَى مَتَى أَتِيهَا الْجَهَالُ تُجِبُّونَ الْجَهْلَ، وَالْمُسْتَهْزِئُونَ يُسَرُّونَ بِالْإِسْتِهْزَاءِ، وَالْحَقَمَى يُبْغِضُونَ الْعِلْمَ. ²¹إِزْجِعُوا عِنْدَ تَوْبِيخِي. هَنَذَا أَيْضاً لَكُمْ رُوحِي. أَعْلَمُكُمْ كَلِمَاتِي. ²²لأنِّي دَعَوْتُ فَأَبَيْتُمْ، وَمَدَدْتُ يَدِي وَلَيْسَ مَنْ يُبَالِي، ²³بَلْ رَفَضْتُمْ كُلَّ مَشُورَتِي، وَلَمْ تَرْضَوْا تَوْبِيخِي. ²⁴فَأَنَا أَيْضاً أَصْحَكُ عِنْدَ بَلِيَّتِكُمْ. أَشْمْتُ عِنْدَ مَجِيءِ خَوْفِكُمْ. ²⁵إِذَا جَاءَ خَوْفُكُمْ كَعَاصِقَةٍ، وَأَنْتَ بَلِيَّتُكُمْ كَالرُّوبَعَةِ، ²⁶إِذَا جَاءَتْ عَلَيْكُمْ شِدَّةٌ وَصِيقٌ، ²⁷حِينَئِذٍ يَدْعُونِي فَلَا أَسْتَجِيبُ. يُبْكِرُونَ إِلَيَّ فَلَا يَجِدُونِي. ²⁸لأنَّهُمْ أَبْغَضُوا الْعِلْمَ وَلَمْ يَخْتَارُوا مَخَافَةَ الرَّبِّ. ²⁹لَمْ يَرْضَوْا مَشُورَتِي. رَدُّوا كُلَّ تَوْبِيخِي. ³⁰فَلَيْدَكَ يَأْكُلُونَ مِنْ تَمْرِ طَرِيقِهِمْ، وَيَسْبِعُونَ مِنْ مُوَامِرَاتِهِمْ. ³¹لأنَّ إِرْتِدَادَ الْحَقَمَى يَقْتُلُهُمْ، وَرَاحَةُ الْجَهَالِ تُبِيدُهُمْ. ³²أَمَّا الْمُسْتَمِعُ لِي فَيَسْكُنُ آمِناً، وَيَسْتَرِيحُ مِنْ خَوْفِ الشَّرِّ.

streets:²¹ She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying ,²² How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?²³ Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.²⁴ Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;²⁵ But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;²⁷ When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.²⁸ Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:²⁹ For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:³⁰ They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.³¹ Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.³² For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.³³ But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.