

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

¹إِذَا جَلَسْتَ تَأْكُلُ مَعَ مُتَسَلِّطٍ فَتأمل مَا هُوَ أَمَامَكَ تَأْمَلًا، وَضع سِكِّينَا لِحَجَرَتِكَ إِنْ كُنْتَ شَرِيرًا.³لَا تَشْتَهَ أَطَايِبَهُ لَأَنَّهَا خُبْرٌ أَكَاذِبٌ. لَا تَتَعَبْ لِكَيِّ تَصِيرَ عَيْنًا. كُفْ عَنْ فِطْنَتِكَ.⁵هَلْ تُطَيِّرُ عَيْنُكَ تَحْوَهُ وَلَيْسَ هُوَ. لَأَنَّهُ إِنَّمَا يَصْنَعُ لِنَفْسِهِ أَجْنَحَةً. كَالنَّسْرِ يَطِيرُ تَحْوِ السَّمَاءِ.⁶لَا تَأْكُلْ خُبْرَ ذِي عَيْنٍ شَرِيرَةٍ وَلَا تَشْتَهَ أَطَايِبَهُ. لَأَنَّهُ كَمَا شَعَرَ فِي نَفْسِهِ هَكَذَا هُوَ. يَقُولُ لَكَ، كُلْ وَاشْرَبْ وَقَلْبُهُ لَيْسَ مَعَكَ.⁸اللَّفْظَةُ الَّتِي أَكَلْتَهَا تَتَقَيَّأُهَا، وَتُخَسِرُ كَلِمَاتَكَ الْخُلُوعَ.⁹فِي أَدْنَى جَاهِلٍ لَا تَتَكَلَّمْ لَأَنَّهُ يَخْتَفِرُ حِكْمَةَ كَلَامِكَ.¹⁰لَا تُقِلِ التُّخَمَ الْقَدِيمَ، وَلَا تَدْخُلْ حُفُولَ الْإِبْتِمَامِ، لِأَنَّ وَلِيَّهُمْ قُوَّةٌ. هُوَ يَقِيمُ دَعْوَاهُمْ عَلَيْكَ. وَجْهٌ قَلْبِكَ إِلَى الْأَدَبِ وَأُذُنُكَ إِلَى كَلِمَاتِ الْمَعْرِفَةِ.¹³لَا تَمْنَعِ التَّادِيبَ عَنِ الْوَلَدِ لِأَنَّكَ إِنْ صَرَبْتَهُ بِعَصَا لَا يَمُوتُ.¹⁴تَضْرِبُهُ أَنْتَ بِعَصَا فَتَنْقُذُ نَفْسَهُ مِنَ الْهَوَايَةِ. يَا ابْنِي، إِنْ كَانَ قَلْبُكَ حَكِيمًا يَفْرَحْ قَلْبِي أَنَا أَيْضًا، وَتَبْتَهِجْ كَلِمَاتِي إِذَا تَكَلَّمْتَ شَفَقَاتِكَ بِالْمُسْتَقِيمَاتِ.¹⁷لَا يَخْسِدَنَّ قَلْبُكَ الْخَاطِئِينَ، بَلْ كُنْ فِي مَخَافَةِ الرَّبِّ الْيَوْمَ كُلَّهُ. لَأَنَّهُ لَا بُدَّ مِنْ ثَوَابٍ، وَرَجَاؤُكَ لَا يَخِيبُ.¹⁹إِسْمَعْ أَنْتَ يَا ابْنِي وَكُنْ حَكِيمًا وَأَرْشِدْ قَلْبَكَ فِي الطَّرِيقِ.²⁰لَا تَكُنْ بَيْنَ شَرِيرِي الْحَمْرِ، بَيْنَ الْمُتْلِفِينَ أَجْسَادَهُمْ، لِأَنَّ السَّكِرَ وَالْمُسْرِفَ يَفْتَقِرَانِ، وَالنُّومُ يَكْشُو الْخِرْقَ.²²إِسْمَعْ لَأَيْسِكَ الَّذِي وَلَدَكَ، وَلَا تَحْتَفِرْ أَمَكَ إِذَا سَاحَتْ. أَفْتَنِ الْخَقَّ وَلَا تَبْعُهُ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَالْأَدَبَ وَالْقَهْمَ.²⁴أَبُو الصَّادِقِ يَبْتَهِجُ ابْتِهَاجًا، وَمَنْ وَلَدَ حَكِيمًا يُسَرِّ بِه.²⁵يَفْرَحْ أَبُوكَ وَأُمُّكَ وَتَبْتَهِجُ الَّتِي وَلَدْتَكَ. يَا ابْنِي أَعْطِنِي قَلْبَكَ وَلْتَلَا حِطَّ عَيْنَاكَ طَرَفِي.²⁷لِأَنَّ الزَّانِيَةَ هُوَّةٌ عَمِيقَةٌ وَالْأَجْنَبِيَّةُ حُفْرَةٌ ضَيِّقَةٌ.²⁸هِيَ أَيْضًا كَلِيسٌ تَكْمُنُ وَتَزِيدُ الْعَادِرِينَ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ.²⁹لِمَنِ الْوَيْلُ. لِمَنِ السَّقَاوَةُ. لِمَنِ الْمُخَاصَمَاتُ. لِمَنِ الْكَرْبُ، لِمَنِ الْجُرُوحُ بِلا سَبَبٍ. لِمَنِ اُزْمَهَرَارُ الْعَيْنَيْنِ.³⁰لِلَّذِينَ يُذْمُونَ الْحَمْرَ، الَّذِينَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي طَلَبِ الشَّرَابِ الْمَمْرُوجِ.³¹لَا تَنْظُرْ إِلَى الْحَمْرِ إِذَا اخْمَرَتْ حِينَ تُظْهِرُ جِبَاهَهَا فِي الْكَاسِ وَسَاعَتْ مُرْفِقَةً.³²فِي الْآخِرِ تَلْسَعُ كَالْحَيَّةِ وَتَلْدَعُ كَالْأَفْعُوانِ.³³عَيْنَاكَ تَنْظُرَانِ الْأَجْنَبِيَّاتِ وَقَلْبُكَ يَطْلُقُ بِأُمُورٍ مُلْتَوِيَةٍ.³⁴وَتَكُونُ كَمُضْطَلَعٍ فِي قَلْبِ الْبَحْرِ، أَوْ كَمُضْطَلَعٍ عَلَى رَأْسِ سَارِيَةٍ.³⁵يَقُولُ، صَرَبُونِي وَلَمْ أَتَوَجَّعْ. لَقَدْ لَكَأُونِي وَلَمْ أَغْرِفْ. مَتَى أَسْتَقِطُ أَغُودُ أَطْلُبُهَا بَعْدُ.

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.