

¹As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.²As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.³A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.⁴Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.⁵Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.⁶He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage.⁷The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.⁸As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool.⁹As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.¹⁰The great God that formed all things both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.¹¹As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.¹²Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.¹³The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.¹⁴As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed.¹⁵The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.¹⁶The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.¹⁷He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.¹⁸As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,¹⁹So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and

¹كَالسَّلْجِ فِي الصَّيْفِ وَكَالْمَطَرِ فِي الْحَصَادِ هَكَذَا الْكَرَامَةُ عَيْرٌ لِأَنْفَعِ بِالْجَاهِلِ.²كَالْعُصْفُورِ لِلْفَرَارِ وَكَالسُّنُوتَةِ لِلطَّيْرَانِ، كَذَلِكَ لَعْنَةُ بِلَا سَبَبٍ لَا تَأْتِي.³السَّوْطُ لِلْفَرَسِ وَاللِّجَامُ لِلْحِمَارِ، وَالْعَصَا لَطَهْرِ الْجَهَّالِ. لَا تُجَاوِبِ الْجَاهِلَ حَسَبَ حَقَاقَتِهِ لئَلَّا تَعْدِلُهُ أَنْتَ.⁴جَاوِبِ الْجَاهِلَ حَسَبَ حَقَاقَتِهِ لئَلَّا يَكُونَ حَكِيمًا فِي عَيْنِي نَفْسِيهِ. ⁵يَقْطَعِ الرَّجُلَيْنِ، يَسْرُبُ طَلْمًا، مَنْ يُرْسِلُ كَلَامًا عَنْ يَدِ جَاهِلٍ. ⁶سَاقَا الْأَعْرَجِ مُتَدَلِّلَتَانِ، وَكَذَا الْمَثَلُ فِي فَمِ الْجَهَّالِ. ⁷كَصْرَةِ جَارَةِ كَرِيمَةٍ فِي رُجْمَةٍ هَكَذَا الْمُعْطِي كَرَامَةً لِلْجَاهِلِ. ⁸شَوْكٌ مُرْتَفِعٌ يَدِ سَكْرَانٍ مِثْلُ الْمَثَلِ فِي فَمِ الْجَهَّالِ. ⁹رَامَ يَطْعَنُ الْكَلْبَ، هَكَذَا مَنْ يَسْتَأْجِرُ الْجَاهِلَ أَوْ يَسْتَأْجِرُ الْمُخْتَالِينَ. ¹⁰كَمَا يَعُودُ الْكَلْبُ إِلَى قَيْئِهِ هَكَذَا الْجَاهِلُ يُعِيدُ حَمَاقَتَهُ. ¹¹أَرَأَيْتَ رَجُلًا حَكِيمًا فِي عَيْنِي نَفْسِيهِ. الرَّجَاءُ بِالْجَاهِلِ أَكْثَرُ مِنَ الرَّجَاءِ بِهِ. ¹²قَالَ الْكَسْلَانُ، الْأَسَدُ فِي الطَّرِيقِ، الشَّيْلُ فِي الشَّوَارِعِ. ¹³الْبَابُ يَدُورُ عَلَى صَائِرِهِ، وَالْكَسْلَانُ عَلَى فِرَاشِهِ. ¹⁴الْكَسْلَانُ يُخْفِي يَدَهُ فِي الصَّحْفَةِ وَيَسْتَشُقُّ عَلَيْهِ أَنْ يَرُدَّهَا إِلَى فَمِهِ. ¹⁵الْكَسْلَانُ أَوْكُرُ حِكْمَةٍ فِي عَيْنِي نَفْسِيهِ مِنَ السَّبْعَةِ الْمُجِيبِينَ بِعَقْلِ. ¹⁶كَمُمْسِكِ أَدْنِي كُلِّ هَكَذَا مَنْ يَعْْبُرُ وَيَتَعَرَّضُ لِمُسْجَاغَةٍ لَا تَعْنِيهِ. ¹⁷مِثْلُ الْمَجْنُونِ الَّذِي يَرْمِي تَارًا وَسِهَامًا وَمَوْنَا، هَكَذَا الرَّجُلُ الْحَادِغُ قَرِيْبَهُ وَيَقُولُ، أَلَمْ أَلْعَبْ أَنَا. ¹⁸يَعْدَمُ الْحَطْبُ تَنْطَفِئُ النَّارُ، وَحَيْثُ لَا تَمَامَ يَهْدَأُ الْخِصَامُ. ¹⁹فَحَمٌ لِلْجَمْرِ وَحَطْبٌ لِلنَّارِ هَكَذَا الرَّجُلُ الْمُخَاصِمُ لِتَهْيِيجِ التَّرَاعِ. ²⁰كَلَامُ التَّمَامِ مِثْلُ لَفْمِ خُلُوةٍ فَيَنْزِلُ إِلَى مَخَارِعِ الْبَطْنِ. ²¹فِصَّةُ رَعْلٍ تُعَسِّي سَقْفَةً، هَكَذَا السَّقَّتَانِ الْمُتَوَقِّدَتَانِ وَالْقَلْبُ الشَّرِيرُ. ²²يَسْفَتِيهِ يَتَكَّرُ الْمُعْضُ، وَفِي جَوْفِهِ يَصْعُ غِشًا. ²³إِذَا حَسَنَ صَوْتُهُ فَلَا تَأْتِمُهُ، لِأَنَّ فِي قَلْبِهِ سَبْعَ رَجَاسَاتٍ. ²⁴مَنْ يُعْطِي بَعْضَةَ بِمَكْرٍ يَكْتَسِفُ حُبْنَهُ بَيْنَ الْجَمَاعَةِ. ²⁵مَنْ يَحْفَرُ حُفْرَةً يَسْقُطُ فِيهَا، وَمَنْ يُدْرِحُ حَجْرًا يَرْجِعُ عَلَيْهِ. ²⁶اللِّسَانُ الْكَادِبُ يُبْغِضُ مُنْسَجِفِيهِ، وَالْقَمُّ الْمَلِيقُ يُعِدُّ حَرَابًا.

saith, Am not I in sport?²⁰ Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.²¹ As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.²² The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.²³ Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.²⁴ He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;²⁵ When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart.²⁶ Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation.²⁷ Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.²⁸ A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.