

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

¹الْحِكْمَةُ بَنَتْ بَيْتَهَا. تَحَتَّى أَعْمَدَتِهَا السَّيْعَةُ. دَبَحَتْ دَبَحَهَا. مَزَجَتْ خَمْرَهَا. أَيْضاً رَتَّبَتْ مَا يَدَّتْهَا. أَوْسَلَتْ جَوَارِيَهَا تُتَادِي عَلَى طُحُورِ أَعَالِي الْمَدِينَةِ، مَنْ هُوَ جَاهِلٌ فَلْيَمِلْ إِلَى هُنَا. وَالنَّاقِصُ الْفَهْمِ قَالَتْ لَهُ، هَلُمُّوا كُلُّوا مِنْ طَعَامِي، وَاشْرَبُوا مِنَ الْخَمْرِ الَّتِي مَرَّجْتُهَا. أَتْرَكُوا الْجَهَالَاتِ فَتَحَيُّوا، وَسِيرُوا فِي طَرِيقِ الْفَهْمِ. مَنْ يُوبِّخُ مُسْتَهْزِئاً يَكْسِبُ لِنَفْسِهِ هَوَاناً، وَمَنْ يُنْذِرُ شَرِّيراً يَكْسِبُ عَيْباً. لَا تُوبِّخْ مُسْتَهْزِئاً لئَلَّا يُبْغِضَكَ. وَبِخْ حَكِيماً فَيَجِبَكَ. أَعْطِ حَكِيماً فَيَكُونَ أَوْفَرَ حِكْمَةً. عَلِمَ صَدِيقاً فَيَزِدَّادَ عِلْماً. ¹⁰بَدْءُ الْحِكْمَةِ مَخَافَةُ الرَّبِّ، وَمَعْرِفَةُ الْقُدُّوسِ فَهْمٌ. ¹¹لَآئِهَ بِي تَكُنْزُ أَيَّامِكَ وَتَزْدَادُ لَكَ سِنُو حَيَاةٍ. ¹²إِنْ كُنْتَ حَكِيماً قَالَتْ حَكِيمٌ لِنَفْسِكَ، وَإِنْ اسْتَهْزَأَتْ قَالَتْ وَحْدَكَ تَتَحَمَّلُ. ¹³الْمَرْأَةُ الْجَاهِلَةُ صَخَابَةٌ حَمَقَاءُ وَلَا تَذَرِي شَيْئاً، فَتَقْعُدُ عِنْدَ بَابِ بَيْتِهَا عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ فِي أَعَالِي الْمَدِينَةِ لِنُتَادِي غَايِرِي السَّبِيلِ الْمُقَوِّمِينَ طُرُقَهُمْ، مَنْ هُوَ جَاهِلٌ فَلْيَمِلْ إِلَى هُنَا. وَالنَّاقِصُ الْفَهْمِ يَقُولُ لَهُ، ¹⁷الْمَيَاةُ الْمَسْرُوقَةُ خُلُوةٌ وَخُبْرُ الْحُقِيَّةِ لَذِيذٌ. ¹⁸وَلَا يَعْلَمُ أَنَّ الْأَحْيِلَةَ هُنَاكَ، وَأَنَّ فِي أَعْمَاقِ الْهَوَايَةِ ضُيُوقَهَا.