

¹My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding:²That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge.³For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:⁴But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword.⁵Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.⁶Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them.⁷Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.⁸Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:⁹Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:¹⁰Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;¹¹And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,¹²And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;¹³And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!¹⁴I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.¹⁵Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.¹⁶Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets.¹⁷Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee.¹⁸Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.¹⁹Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.²⁰And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a

¹يَا ابْنِي، أَصْغِ إِلَى حِكْمَتِي. أَمِلْ أُذُنَكَ إِلَى فَهْمِي،²لِحِفْظِ التَّذَابِيرِ، وَلِتَحْفَظَ شَفَتَاكَ مَعْرِفَةً.³لَأَنَّ شَفَتَيِ الْمَرْأَةِ الْأَجْنِبِيَّةِ تَقْطُرَانِ عَسَلًا، وَحَنَكُهَا أَنْعَمُ مِنَ الزَّيْتِ. لَكِنَّ عَاقِبَتَهَا مُرَّةٌ كَالْأَفْسَنْتَيْنِ. خَادَّةٌ كَسَيْفٍ فِي حَدِّينِ.⁴قَدَمَاهَا تَنْحَدِرَانِ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ. خَطَوَاتُهَا تَتَمَسَّكُ بِالْهَافِيَةِ.⁵لِيَلَّا تَتَأَمَّلَ طَرِيقَ الْحَيَاةِ. تَمَاطِلُ خَطَوَاتُهَا وَلَا تَسْعُرُ.⁷وَالآنَ أَيُّهَا الْبَنُونَ اسْمَعُوا لِي، وَلَا تَرْتَدُّوا عَنْ كَلِمَاتِ قِمِّي. أَبْعِدْ طَرِيقَكَ عَنْهَا وَلَا تَقْرُبْ إِلَى بَابِ بَيْتِهَا،⁹لِيَلَّا تُعْطِيَ زَهْرَكَ لِآخَرِينَ وَسِينَتَكَ لِلْقَاسِي. لِيَلَّا تَشْبَعَ الْأَجَانِبُ مِنْ فُؤُوكَ، وَتَكُونَ أَنْعَابُكَ فِي بَيْتِ غَرِيبٍ.¹¹فَتَسُوخُ فِي أَوَاجِرِكَ، عِنْدَ قَتَاءِ لَحْمِكَ وَجِسْمِكَ.¹²فَتَقُولُ، كَيْفَ أَتَى أَبْعَضْتُ الْأَدَبَ وَرَدَلْتُ قَلْبِي التَّوْبِيخَ.¹³وَلَمْ أَسْمَعْ لَصَوْتِ مُرْشِدِي، وَلَمْ أَمِلْ أُذُنِي إِلَى مُعَلِّمِي.¹⁴لَوْلَا قَلِيلُ لَكُنْتُ فِي كُلِّ شَرٍّ فِي وَسْطِ الزُّمَرَةِ وَالْجَمَاعَةِ.¹⁵إِنْ شَرَبْتُ مِيَاهًا مِنْ جُبِّكَ، وَمِيَاهًا جَارِيَةً مِنْ يَدِّكَ. لَا تَفِضْ يَتَابِعُكَ إِلَى الْخَارِجِ سَوَاقِي مِيَاهٍ فِي الشُّوَارِعِ. لِيَتَكُنْ لَكَ وَحْدَكَ وَلَيْسَ لِأَجَانِبٍ مَعَكَ.¹⁸لِيَتَكُنْ يَتْبُوْعُكَ مُبَارَكًا وَافْرَحَ بِامْرَأَةِ شَبَابِكَ،¹⁹الطَّيِّبَةِ الْمُحِبُّوْبَةِ وَالْوَعْلَةِ الرَّهْبَةِ. لِيُزَوِّكَ نَدْيَاهَا فِي كُلِّ وَقْتٍ، وَبِمَحَبَّتِهَا اسْكُرْ دَائِمًا.²⁰فَلَمَّاذَا تُفْتَنُ يَا ابْنِي بِأَجْنِبِيَّةٍ وَتَحْتَضِنُ غَرِيبَةً،²¹لَأَنَّ طُرُقَ الْإِنْسَانِ أَمَامَ عَيْنِي الرَّبِّ، وَهُوَ يَزِنُ كُلَّ سُلَيْهِ.²²السَّرِيرُ تَأْخُذُهُ آثَامُهُ وَبِجْبَالِ خَطِيئَتِهِ يُمَسَّكُ.²³إِنَّهُ يَمُوتُ مِنْ عَدَمِ الْأَدَبِ، وَيَقْرُطُ حُمْقِهِ بِنَهْوَرٍ.

strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?²¹ For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.²² His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.²³ He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.