

¹Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.² A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself.³ When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach.⁴ The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.⁵ It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.⁶ A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes.⁷ A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.⁸ The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.⁹ He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.¹⁰ The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.¹¹ The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.¹² Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.¹³ He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.¹⁴ The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?¹⁵ The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.¹⁶ A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.¹⁷ He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.¹⁸ The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty.¹⁹ A brother offended is

harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.²⁰ A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.²¹ Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.²² Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.²³ The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly.²⁴ A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.