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. When the wicked cometh. then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach. The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook. 5It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment. A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. A fool's mouth is his destruction. and his lips are the snare of his soul. The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster. ¹⁰The 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?¹⁵The 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

ُ الْمُعْتَزِلُ يَطْلُبُ شَهْوَتَهُ. بِكُلِّ مَشُورَةٍ يَغْتَاظُ. ُ ٱلْجَاهِلُ لاَ يُسَرُّ بِالْفَهْمِ بَلْ بِكَشْفِ قَلْبِهِ.³إِذَا جَاءَ الشِّرِّيرُ جَاءَ الاحْتِقَارُ أَيْضاً، وَمَعَ الْهَوَانِ عَارٌ. ۗ كَلِمَاتُ فَمِ الإِنْسَانِ مِيَاهُ عَمِيقَةٌ. نَبْعُ الْحِكْمَة نَهْرٌ مُنْدَفِقٌ. ۚ رَفْعُ وَجُّه اللَّشِّرِّيرِ لَيْسَ حَسَناً لإخْطَاءِ الصِّدِّيقِ فِي الْقَضَاءِ. ُشَفَتَا الْجَاهِلِ تُـدَاخِلاَن فـي الْخُصُومَـة، وَفَمُـهُ يَـدْعُو بِضَرَبَـاتٍ. ۖفَـمُ الْحَاهِل مَعْلَكَةٌ لَهُ، وَشَفَتَاهُ شَرَكٌ لِنَفْسِهٍ. ۚكَلاَمُ النَّمَّامِ مِثْلُ لُقَم حُلْوَةِ وَهُوَ يَنْزِلُ إِلَى مَخَادِعِ الْبَطْنِ. ْأَيْضاً الْمُتَرَاخِي فِي عَمَلِهِ هُوَ أُخُو الْمُسْرِفِ.10اِسْمُ الرَّبِّ بُرْجٌ حَصِينٌ، يَرْكُضُ إِلَيْهِ الصِّدِّيقُ وَيَتَمَنَّعُ لَـٰ أَثَرْوَةُ الْغَنِيِّ مَدِينَتُهُ الْحَصِينَةُ، وَمِثْلُ سُورِ عَال فِي تَصَوُّرهِ.12قَبْلَ الْكَسْرِ يَتَكَبَّرُ قَلْبُ الإِنْسَانِ، وَقَبْلَ الْكَرَامَةِ التَّوَاضُغُ.¹³مَنْ يُجِيبُ عَنْ أَمْرِ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَسْمَعَهُ فَلَـهُ حَمَاقَـةٌ وَعَـارٌ. 14 رُوحُ الإِنْسَانِ تَحْتَمِلُ مَرَضَهُ، أَمَّا الرُّوحُ الْمَكْسُورَةُ فَمَنْ ىَحْمِلُهَا.¹⁵قَلْـثُ الْفَهِـمِ يَقْتَنِي مَعْرِفَـةً، وَأَذُنُ الْحُكَمَاءِ تَطْلُبُ عِلْماً.16هَديَّةُ الإِنْسَانِ تُرَجِّبُ لَهُ وَتَهْدِيهِ إِلَى أَمَامِ الْعُظَمَاءِ. 11 اَلأَوَّلُ فِي دَعْوَاهُ مُحِيقٌ، فَيَأْتِي رَفِيقُهُ وَيَفْحَصُـهُ. أَلْقُوْ عَـةُ تُسَطِّلُ الْخُصُومَـاتِ وَتَفْصِلُ بَيْنَ أَمْنَعُ مِنْ مَدينَة حَصِينَة وَالْمُخَاصَمَاتُ كَعَارِضَة قَلْعَة.²⁰منْ ثَمَر فَم الإنْسَانِ يَشْيَعُ يَطْنُهُ، مِنْ غَلَّة ۚ شَفَتَيْه يَشْيَعُ. 21 أَلْمَوْتُ وَالْحَيَاةُ فِي يَدِ اللَّسَانِ، وَأُحِبَّاؤُهُ يَأْكُلُونَ ثَمَرَهُ.22مَنْ يَجِدُ زَوْجَةً يَجِدُ خَيْراً وَيَنَالُ رضًى مِنَ الرَّبِّ.23 سَضَرُّ عَاتِ سَكَلِّمُ الْفَقِيرُ، وَالْغَنِيُّ يُجَاوِبُ بِخُشُونَةِ. 24 َ ٱلْمُكْثِرُ الأَصْحَابِ يُخْرِبُ نَفْسَهُ، وَلَكِنْ يُوجَدُ مُحِبٌّ أَلْزَقُ مِنَ الأَخِ.

Proverbs 18

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