

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.