

<sup>1</sup>Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom. <sup>2</sup>A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself. <sup>3</sup>When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach. <sup>4</sup>The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook. <sup>5</sup>It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment. <sup>6</sup>A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. <sup>7</sup>A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. <sup>8</sup>The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. <sup>9</sup>He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster. <sup>10</sup>The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe. <sup>11</sup>The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit. <sup>12</sup>Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility. <sup>13</sup>He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him. <sup>14</sup>The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear? <sup>15</sup>The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge. <sup>16</sup>A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men. <sup>17</sup>He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him. <sup>18</sup>The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty. <sup>19</sup>A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle. <sup>20</sup>A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. <sup>21</sup>Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. <sup>22</sup>Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD. <sup>23</sup>The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly. <sup>24</sup>A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.