

<sup>1</sup>My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; <sup>2</sup>So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; <sup>3</sup>Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; <sup>4</sup>If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; <sup>5</sup>Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup>For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. <sup>7</sup>He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. <sup>8</sup>He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. <sup>9</sup>Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea , every good path. <sup>10</sup>When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; <sup>11</sup>Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: <sup>12</sup>To deliver thee from the way of the evil man , from the man that speaketh froward things; <sup>13</sup>Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; <sup>14</sup>Who rejoyce to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; <sup>15</sup>Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths: <sup>16</sup>To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; <sup>17</sup>Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. <sup>18</sup>For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead. <sup>19</sup>None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life. <sup>20</sup>That thou mayest walk in the way of good men , and keep the paths of the righteous. <sup>21</sup>For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it. <sup>22</sup>But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.