

How does a man become wise? The first step is to trust and reverence the Lord! Proverbs 1:7 TLB

For the Lord grants wisdom! His every word is a treasure of knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6 TLB

He grants good sense to the godly -- his saints. He is their shield, protecting them and guarding their pathway. Proverbs 2:7-8 TLB

Wisdom gives: A long, good life -- Riches -- Honor -- Pleasure -- Peace. Proverbs 3:16-17 TLB

Wisdom is a tree of life to those who eat her fruit; happy is the man who keeps on eating it. Proverbs 3:18 TLB

Don't withhold repayment of your debts. Don't say "some other time," if you can pay now. Proverbs 3:27-28 TLB

Don't plot against your neighbor; he is trusting you. Proverbs 3:29 TLB

The curse of God is on the wicked, but his blessing is on the upright. The Lord mocks at mockers, but helps the humble. Proverbs 3:33-34 TLB

The wise are promoted to honor, but fools are promoted to shame! Proverbs 3:35 TLB

Determination to be wise is the first step toward becoming wise! And with your wisdom, develop common sense and good judgment. Proverbs 4:7 TLB

Drink from your own well, my son -- be faithful and true to your wife. Proverbs 5:15 TLB

Wisdom and good judgment live together, for wisdom knows where to discover knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 8:12 TLB

If anyone respects and fears God, he will hate evil. For wisdom hates pride, arrogance, corruption and deceit of every kind. Proverbs 8:13 TLB

Teach a wise man, and he will be the wiser; teach a good man, and he will learn more. Proverbs 9:9 TLB

Happy is the man with a level-headed son; sad the mother of a rebel. Proverbs 10:1 TLB

Ill-gotten gain brings no lasting happiness; right living does. Proverbs 10:2 TLB

The Lord will not let a good man starve to death, nor will he let the wicked man's riches continue forever. Proverbs 10:3 TLB

Lazy men are soon poor; hard workers get rich. Proverbs 10:4 TLB

A wise youth makes hay while the sun shines, but what a shame to see a lad who sleeps away his hour of opportunity. Proverbs 10:5 TLB

The good man is covered with blessings from head to foot, but an evil man inwardly curses his luck. Proverbs 10:6 TLB

We all have happy memories of good men gone to their reward, but the names of wicked men stink after them. Proverbs 10:7 TLB

The wise man is glad to be instructed, but a self-sufficient fool falls flat on his face. Proverbs 10:8 TLB

A good man has firm footing, but a crook will slip and fall. Proverbs 10:9 TLB

Winking at sin leads to sorrow; bold reproof leads to peace. Proverbs 10:10 TLB

There is living truth in what a good man says, but the mouth of the evil man is filled with curses. Proverbs 10:11 TLB

Hatred stirs old quarrels, but love overlooks insults. Proverbs 10:12 TLB

Men with common sense are admired as counselors; those without it are beaten as servants. Proverbs 10:13 TLB

A wise man holds his tongue. Only a fool blurts out everything he knows; that only leads to sorrow and trouble. Proverbs 10:14 TLB

The rich man's wealth is his only strength. The poor man's poverty is his only curse. Proverbs 10:15 TLB

The good man's earnings advance the cause of righteousness. The evil man squanders his on sin. Proverbs 10:16 TLB

Anyone willing to be corrected is on the pathway to life. Anyone refusing has lost his chance. Proverbs 10:17 TLB

To hate is to be a liar; to slander is to be a fool. Proverbs 10:18 TLB

Don't talk so much. You keep putting your foot in your mouth. Be sensible and turn off the flow! Proverbs 10:19 TLB

When a good man speaks, he is worth listening to, but the words of fools are a dime a dozen. Proverbs 10:20 TLB

A godly man gives good advice, but a rebel is destroyed by lack of common sense. Proverbs 10:21 TLB

The Lord's blessing is our greatest wealth. All our work adds nothing to it! Proverbs 10:22 TLB

A fool's fun is being bad; a wise man's fun is being wise! Proverbs 10:23 TLB

The wicked man's fears will all come true, and so will the good man's hopes. Proverbs 10:24 TLB

Disaster strikes like a cyclone and the wicked are whirled away. But the good man has a strong anchor. Proverbs 10:25 TLB

A lazy fellow is a pain to his employers -- like smoke in their eyes or vinegar that sets the teeth on edge. Proverbs 10:26 TLB

Reverence for God adds hours to each day; so how can the wicked expect a long, good life? Proverbs 10:27 TLB

The hope of good men is eternal happiness; the hopes of evil men are all in vain. Proverbs 10:28 TLB

God protects the upright but destroys the wicked. Proverbs 10:29 TLB

The good shall never lose God's blessings, but the wicked shall lose everything. Proverbs 10:30 TLB

The good man gives wise advice, but the liar's counsel is shunned. Proverbs 10:31 TLB

The upright speak what is helpful; the wicked speak rebellion. Proverbs 10:32 TLB

The Lord hates cheating and delights in honesty. Proverbs 11:1 TLB

Proud men end in shame, but the meek become wise. Proverbs 11:2 TLB

A good man is guided by his honesty; the evil man is destroyed by his dishonesty. Proverbs 11:3 TLB

Your riches won't help you on Judgement Day; only righteousness counts then. Proverbs 11:4 TLB

The upright are directed by their honesty; the wicked shall fall beneath their load of sins. Proverbs 11:5 TLB

The good man's goodness delivers him; the evil man's treachery is his undoing. Proverbs 11:6 TLB

When an evil man dies, his hopes all perish, for they are based upon this earthly life. Proverbs 11:7 TLB

God rescues good men from danger while letting the wicked fall into it. Proverbs 11:8 TLB

Evil words destroy. Godly skill rebuilds. Proverbs 11:9 TLB

The whole city celebrates a good man's success -- and also the godless man's death. Proverbs 11:10 TLB

The good influence of godly citizens causes a city to prosper, but the moral decay of the wicked drives it downhill. Proverbs 11:11 TLB

To quarrel with a neighbor is foolish; a man with good sense holds his tongue. Proverbs 11:12 TLB

A gossip goes around spreading rumors, while a trustworthy man tries to quiet them. Proverbs 11:13 TLB

Without wise leadership, a nation is in trouble; but with good counselors there is safety. Proverbs 11:14 TLB

Be sure you know a person well before you vouch for his credit! Better refuse than suffer later. Proverbs 11:15 TLB

Honor goes to kind and gracious women, mere money to cruel men. Proverbs 11:16 TLB

Your own soul is nourished when you are kind; it is destroyed when you are cruel. Proverbs 11:17 TLB

The evil man gets rich for the moment, but the good man's reward lasts forever. Proverbs 11:18 TLB

The good man finds life; the evil man, death. Proverbs 11:19 TLB

The Lord hates the stubborn but delights in those who are good. Proverbs 11:20 TLB

A beautiful woman lacking discretion and modesty is like a fine gold ring in a pig's snout. Proverbs 11:22 TLB

The good man can look forward to happiness, while the wicked can expect only wrath. Proverbs 11:23 TLB

People curse the man who holds his grain for higher prices, but they bless the man who sells it to them in their time of need. Proverbs 11:26 TLB

If you search for good you will find God's favor; if you search for evil you will find his curse. Proverbs 11:27 TLB

Trust in your money and down you go! Trust in God and flourish as a tree! Proverbs 11:28 TLB

Godly men are growing a tree that bears life-giving fruit, and all who win souls are wise. Proverbs 11:30 TLB

Even the godly shall be rewarded here on earth; how much more the wicked! Proverbs 11:31 TLB

To learn, you must want to be taught. To refuse reproof is stupid. Proverbs 12:1 TLB

The Lord blesses good men and condemns the wicked. Proverbs 12:2 TLB

Wickedness never brings real success; only the godly have that. Proverbs 12:3 TLB

A worthy wife is her husband's joy and crown; the other kind corrodes his strength and tears down everything he does. Proverbs 12:4 TLB

A good man's mind is filled with honest thoughts; an evil man's mind is crammed with lies. Proverbs 12:5 TLB

The wicked accuse; the godly defend.
Proverbs 12:6 TLB

The wicked shall perish; the godly shall stand.
Proverbs 12:7 TLB

Everyone admires a man with good sense, but a man with a warped mind is despised. Proverbs 12:8 TLB

It is better to get your hands dirty -- and eat, than to be too proud to work -- and starve. Proverbs 12:9 TLB

A good man is concerned for the welfare of his animals, but even the kindness of godless men is cruel. Proverbs 12:10 TLB

Hard work means prosperity; only a fool idles away his time.
Proverbs 12:11 TLB

Crooks are jealous of each other's loot, while good men long to help each other. Proverbs 12:12 TLB

Lies will get any man into trouble, but honesty is its own defense.
Proverbs 12:13 TLB

Telling the truth gives a man great satisfaction, and hard work returns many blessings to him. Proverbs 12:14 TLB

A fool thinks he needs no advice, but a wise man listens to others.
Proverbs 12:15 TLB

A fool is quick-tempered; a wise man stays cool when insulted.
Proverbs 12:16 TLB

A good man is known by his truthfulness; a false man by deceit and lies.
Proverbs 12:17 TLB

Some people like to make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise soothe and heal. Proverbs 12:18 TLB

Truth stands the test of time; lies are soon exposed.
Proverbs 12:19 TLB

Deceit fills hearts that are plotting for evil; joy fills hearts that are planning for good! Proverbs 12:20 TLB

No real harm befalls the good, but there is constant trouble for the wicked. Proverbs 12:21 TLB

God delights in those who keep their promises, and abhors those who don't.
Proverbs 12:22 TLB

A wise man doesn't display his knowledge, but a fool displays his foolishness. Proverbs 12:23 TLB

Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and never succeed. Proverbs 12:24 TLB

Anxious hearts are very heavy but a word of encouragement does wonders! Proverbs 12:25 TLB

The good man asks advice from friends; the wicked plunge ahead -- and fall. Proverbs 12:26 TLB

A lazy man won't even dress the game he gets while hunting, but the diligent man makes good use of everything he finds. Proverbs 12:27 TLB

The path of the godly leads to life. So why fear death? Proverbs 12:28 TLB

A wise youth accepts his father's rebuke; a young mocker doesn't. Proverbs 13:1 TLB

The good man wins his case by careful argument; the evil-minded only wants to fight. Proverbs 13:2 TLB

Self-control means controlling the tongue! A quick retort can ruin everything. Proverbs 13:3 TLB

Lazy people want much but get little, while the diligent are prospering. Proverbs 13:4 TLB

A good man hates lies; wicked men lie constantly and come to shame. Proverbs 13:5 TLB

A man's goodness helps him all through life, while evil men are being destroyed by their wickedness. Proverbs 13:6 TLB

Some rich people are poor, and some poor people have great wealth! Proverbs 13:7 TLB

Being kidnapped and held for ransom never worries the poor man! Proverbs 13:8 TLB

The good man's life is full of light. The sinner's road is dark and gloomy. Proverbs 13:9 TLB

Pride leads to arguments; be humble, take advice and become wise. Proverbs 13:10 TLB

Wealth from gambling quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows. Proverbs 13:11 TLB

Hope deferred makes the heart sick; but when dreams come true at last, there is life and joy. Proverbs 13:12 TLB

Despise God's Word and find yourself in trouble. Obey it and succeed. Proverbs 13:13 TLB

A man with good sense is appreciated. A treacherous man must walk a rocky road. Proverbs 13:15 TLB

A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn't, and even brags about it! Proverbs 13:16 TLB

An unreliable messenger can cause a lot of trouble. Reliable communication permits progress. Proverbs 13:17 TLB

If you refuse criticism you will end in poverty and disgrace; if you accept criticism you are on the road to fame. Proverbs 13:18 TLB

It is pleasant to see plans develop. That is why fools refuse to give them up even when they are wrong. Proverbs 13:19 TLB

Be with wise men and become wise. Be with evil men and become evil. Proverbs 13:20 TLB

Curses chase sinners, while blessings chase the righteous! Proverbs 13:21 TLB

A poor man's farm may have good soil, but injustice robs him of its riches. Proverbs 13:23 TLB

If you refuse to discipline your son, it proves you don't love him; for if you love him you will be prompt to punish him. Proverbs 13:24 TLB

The good man eats to live, while the evil man lives to eat. Proverbs 13:25 TLB

A wise woman builds her house, while a foolish woman tears hers down by her own efforts. Proverbs 14:1 TLB

To do right honors God; to sin is to despise him. Proverbs 14:2 TLB

A rebel's foolish talk should prick his own pride! But the wise man's speech is respected. Proverbs 14:3 TLB

An empty stable stays clean -- but there is no income from an empty stable. Proverbs 14:4 TLB

A truthful witness never lies; a false witness always lies. Proverbs 14:5 TLB

A mocker never finds the wisdom he claims he is looking for, yet it comes easily to the man with common sense. Proverbs 14:6 TLB

If you are looking for advice, stay away from fools. Proverbs 14:7 TLB

The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts. Proverbs 14:8 TLB

The common bond of rebels is their guilt. The common bond of godly people is good will. Proverbs 14:9 TLB

Only the person involved can know his own bitterness or joy -- no one else can really share it. Proverbs 14:10 TLB

The work of the wicked will perish; the work of the godly will flourish. Proverbs 14:11 TLB

Before every man there lies a wide and pleasant road that seems right but ends in death. Proverbs 14:12 TLB

Laughter cannot mask a heavy heart. When the laughter ends, the grief remains. Proverbs 14:13 TLB

The backslider gets bored with himself; the godly man's life is exciting. Proverbs 14:14 TLB

Only a simpleton believes what he is told! A prudent man checks to see where he is going. Proverbs 14:15 TLB

A wise man is cautious and avoids danger; a fool plunges ahead with great confidence. Proverbs 14:16 TLB

A short-tempered man is a fool. He hates the man who is patient. Proverbs 14:17 TLB

The simpleton is crowned with folly; the wise man is crowned with knowledge. Proverbs 14:18 TLB

Evil men shall bow before the godly. Proverbs 14:19 TLB

Even his own neighbors despise the poor man, while the rich have many "friends." Proverbs 14:20 TLB

To despise the poor is to sin. Blessed are those who pity them. Proverbs 14:21 TLB

Those who plot evil shall wander away and be lost, but those who plan good shall be granted mercy and quietness. Proverbs 14:22 TLB

Work brings profit; talk brings poverty! Proverbs 14:23 TLB

Wise men are praised for their wisdom; fools are despised for their folly. Proverbs 14:24 TLB

A witness who tells the truth saves good men from being sentenced to death, but a false witness is a traitor. Proverbs 14:25 TLB

Reverence for God gives a man deep strength; his children have a place of refuge and security. Proverbs 14:26 TLB

Reverence for the Lord is a fountain of life; its waters keep a man from death. Proverbs 14:27 TLB

A growing population is a king's glory; a dwindling nation is his doom. Proverbs 14:28 TLB

A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes.
Proverbs 14:29 TLB

A relaxed attitude lengthens a man's life; jealousy rots it away.
Proverbs 14:30 TLB

Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God. Proverbs 14:31 TLB

The godly have a refuge when they die, but the wicked are crushed by their sins. Proverbs 14:32 TLB

Wisdom is enshrined in the hearts of men of common sense, but it must shout loudly before fools will hear it. Proverbs 14:33 TLB

Godliness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.
Proverbs 14:34 TLB

A king rejoices in servants who know what they are doing; he is angry with those who cause trouble. Proverbs 14:35 TLB

A soft answer turns away wrath, but harsh words cause quarrels.
Proverbs 15:1 TLB

A wise teacher makes learning a joy; a rebellious teacher spouts foolishness. Proverbs 15:2 TLB

The Lord is watching everywhere and keeps his eye on both the evil and the good. Proverbs 15:3 TLB

Gentle words cause life and health; griping brings discouragement.
Proverbs 15:4 TLB

Only a fool despises his father's advice; a wise son considers each suggestion. Proverbs 15:5 TLB

There is treasure in being good, but trouble dogs the wicked.
Proverbs 15:6 TLB

Only the good can give good advice. Rebels can't.
Proverbs 15:7 TLB

The Lord hates the gifts of the wicked, but delights in the prayers of his people. Proverbs 15:8 TLB

The depths of hell are open to God's knowledge. How much more the hearts of all mankind! Proverbs 15:11 TLB

A mocker stays away from wise men because he hates to be scolded.
Proverbs 15:12 TLB

A happy face means a glad heart; a sad face means a breaking heart.
Proverbs 15:13 TLB

A wise man is hungry for truth, while the mocker feeds on trash.
Proverbs 15:14 TLB

When a man is gloomy, everything seems to go wrong; when he is cheerful, everything seems right! Proverbs 15:15 TLB

Better a little with reverence for God, than great treasure and trouble with it. Proverbs 15:16 TLB

It is better to eat soup with someone you love than steak with someone you hate. Proverbs 15:17 TLB

A quick-tempered man starts fights; a cool-tempered man tries to stop them. Proverbs 15:18 TLB

A lazy fellow has trouble all through life; the good man's path is easy! Proverbs 15:19 TLB

A sensible son gladdens his father. A rebellious son saddens his mother. Proverbs 15:20 TLB

If a man enjoys folly, something is wrong! The sensible stay on the pathways of right. Proverbs 15:21 TLB

Plans go wrong with too few counselors; many counselors bring success. Proverbs 15:22 TLB

Everyone enjoys giving good advice, and how wonderful it is to be able to say the right thing at the right time! Proverbs 15:23 TLB

The road of the godly leads upward, leaving hell behind. Proverbs 15:24 TLB

The Lord destroys the possessions of the proud but cares for widows. Proverbs 15:25 TLB

The Lord hates the thoughts of the wicked but delights in kind words. Proverbs 15:26 TLB

Dishonest money brings grief to all the family, but hating bribes brings happiness. Proverbs 15:27 TLB

A good man thinks before he speaks; the evil man pours out his evil words without a thought. Proverbs 15:28 TLB

The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayers of the righteous. Proverbs 15:29 TLB

Pleasant sights and good reports give happiness and health. Proverbs 15:30 TLB

Humility and reverence for the Lord will make you both wise and honored. Proverbs 15:33 TLB

We can make our plans, but the final outcome is in God's hands. Proverbs 16:1 TLB

We can always "prove" that we are right, but is the Lord convinced? Proverbs 16:2 TLB

Commit your work to the Lord, then it will succeed.
Proverbs 16:3 TLB

The Lord has made everything for his own purposes -- even the wicked, for punishment. Proverbs 16:4 TLB

Pride disgusts the Lord. Take my word for it -- *proud men shall be punished.* Proverbs 16:5 TLB

Iniquity is atoned for by mercy and truth; evil is avoided by reverence for God. Proverbs 16:6 TLB

When a man is trying to please God, God makes even his worst enemies to be at peace with him. Proverbs 16:7 TLB

A little, gained honestly, is better than great wealth gotten by dishonest means. Proverbs 16:8 TLB

We should make plans -- counting on God to direct us.
Proverbs 16:9 TLB

God will help the king to judge the people fairly; there need be no mistakes. Proverbs 16:10 TLB

The Lord demands fairness in every business deal. He established this principle. Proverbs 16:11 TLB

It is a horrible thing for a king to do evil. His right to rule depends upon his fairness. Proverbs 16:12 TLB

The king rejoices when his people are truthful and fair.
Proverbs 16:13 TLB

The anger of the king is a messenger of death and a wise man will appease it. Proverbs 16:14 TLB

Many favors are showered on those who please the king.
Proverbs 16:15 TLB

How much better is wisdom than gold, and understanding than silver!
Proverbs 16:16 TLB

The path of the godly leads away from evil; he who follows that path is safe. Proverbs 16:17 TLB

Pride goes before destruction and haughtiness before a fall.
Proverbs 16:18 TLB

Better poor and humble than proud and rich.
Proverbs 16:19 TLB

God blesses those who obey him; happy the man who puts his trust in the Lord. Proverbs 16:20 TLB

The wise man is known by his common sense, and a pleasant teacher is the best. Proverbs 16:21 TLB

Wisdom is a fountain of life to those possessing it, but a fool's burden is his folly. Proverbs 16:22 TLB

From a wise mind comes careful and persuasive speech. Proverbs 16:23 TLB

Kind words are like honey -- enjoyable and healthful. Proverbs 16:24 TLB

Before every man there lies a wide and pleasant road he thinks is right, but it ends in death. Proverbs 16:25 TLB

Hunger is good -- if it makes you work to satisfy it! Proverbs 16:26 TLB

Idle hands are the devil's workshop; idle lips are his mouthpiece. Proverbs 16:27 TLB

An evil man sows strife; gossip separates the best of friends. Proverbs 16:28 TLB

Wickedness loves company -- and leads others into sin. Proverbs 16:29 TLB

The wicked man stares into space with pursed lips, deep in thought, planning his evil deeds. Proverbs 16:30 TLB

White hair is a crown of glory and is seen most among the godly. Proverbs 16:31 TLB

It is better to be slow-tempered than famous; it is better to have self-control than to control an army. Proverbs 16:32 TLB

We toss the coin, but it is the Lord who controls its decision. Proverbs 16:33 TLB

A dry crust eaten in peace is better than steak every day along with argument and strife. Proverbs 17:1 TLB

A wise slave will rule his master's wicked sons and share their estate. Proverbs 17:2 TLB

Silver and gold are purified by fire, but God purifies hearts. Proverbs 17:3 TLB

The wicked enjoy fellowship with others who are wicked; liars enjoy liars. Proverbs 17:4 TLB

Mocking the poor is mocking the God who made them. He will punish those who rejoice at others' misfortunes. Proverbs 17:5 TLB

An old man's grandchildren are his crowning glory. A child's glory is his father. Proverbs 17:6 TLB

Truth from a rebel or lies from a king are both unexpected. Proverbs 17:7 TLB

A bribe works like magic. Whoever uses it will prosper!
Proverbs 17:8 TLB

Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends.
Proverbs 17:9 TLB

A rebuke to a man of common sense is more effective than a hundred lashes on the back of a rebel. Proverbs 17:10 TLB

The wicked live for rebellion; they shall be severely punished.
Proverbs 17:11 TLB

It is safer to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool caught in his folly. Proverbs 17:12 TLB

If you repay evil for good, a curse is upon your home.
Proverbs 17:13 TLB

It is hard to stop a quarrel once it starts, so don't let it begin.
Proverbs 17:14 TLB

The Lord despises those who say that bad is good, and good is bad.
Proverbs 17:15 TLB

It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a rebel who has no heart for truth. Proverbs 17:16 TLB

A true friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need. Proverbs 17:17 TLB

It is poor judgment to countersign another's note, to become responsible for his debts. Proverbs 17:18 TLB

Sinners love to fight; boasting is looking for trouble.
Proverbs 17:19 TLB

An evil man is suspicious of everyone and tumbles into constant trouble.
Proverbs 17:20 TLB

It's no fun to be a rebel's father.
Proverbs 17:21 TLB

A cheerful heart does good like medicine, but a broken spirit makes one sick. Proverbs 17:22 TLB

It is wrong to accept a bribe to twist justice.
Proverbs 17:23 TLB

Wisdom is the main pursuit of sensible men, but a fool's goals are at the ends of the earth! Proverbs 17:24 TLB

A rebellious son is a grief to his father and a bitter blow to his mother.
Proverbs 17:25 TLB

How short-sighted to fine the godly for being good! And to punish nobles for being honest! Proverbs 17:26 TLB

The selfish man quarrels against every sound principle of conduct by demanding his own way. Proverbs 18:1 TLB

A rebel doesn't care about the facts. All he wants to do is yell. Proverbs 18:2 TLB

Sin brings disgrace. Proverbs 18:3 TLB

A wise man's words express deep streams of thought. Proverbs 18:4 TLB

It is wrong for a judge to favor the wicked and condemn the innocent. Proverbs 18:5 TLB

A fool gets into constant fights. His mouth is his undoing! His words endanger him. Proverbs 18:6-7 TLB

What dainty morsels rumors are. They are eaten with great relish! Proverbs 18:8 TLB

A lazy man is brother to the saboteur. Proverbs 18:9 TLB

The Lord is a strong fortress. The godly run to him and are safe. Proverbs 18:10 TLB

The rich man thinks of his wealth as an impregnable defense, a high wall of safety. What a dreamer! Proverbs 18:11 TLB

Pride ends in destruction; humility ends in honor. Proverbs 18:12 TLB

What a shame -- yes, how stupid! -- to decide before knowing the facts! Proverbs 18:13 TLB

A man's courage can sustain his broken body, but when courage dies, what hope is left? Proverbs 18:14 TLB

The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them. Proverbs 18:15 TLB

A bribe does wonders; it will bring you before men of importance! Proverbs 18:16 TLB

Any story sounds true until someone tells the other side and sets the record straight. Proverbs 18:17 TLB

A coin toss ends arguments and settles disputes between powerful opponents. Proverbs 18:18 TLB

Ability to give wise advice satisfies like a good meal! Proverbs 18:20 TLB

Those who love to talk will suffer the consequences. Men have died for saying the wrong thing! Proverbs 18:21 TLB

The man who finds a wife finds a good thing; she is a blessing to him from the Lord. Proverbs 18:22 TLB

The poor man pleads and the rich man answers with insults. Proverbs 18:23 TLB

There are "friends" who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24 TLB

Better be poor and honest than rich and dishonest. Proverbs 19:1 TLB

It is dangerous and sinful to rush into the unknown. Proverbs 19:2 TLB

A man may ruin his chances by his own foolishness and then blame it on the Lord! Proverbs 19:3 TLB

A wealthy man has many "friends"; the poor man has none left. Proverbs 19:4 TLB

Punish false witnesses. Track down liars. Proverbs 19:5 TLB

Many beg favors from a man who is generous; everyone is his friend! Proverbs 19:6 TLB

He who loves wisdom loves his own best interest and will be a success. Proverbs 19:8 TLB

A false witness shall be punished and a liar shall be caught. Proverbs 19:9 TLB

It doesn't seem right for a fool to succeed or for a slave to rule over princes! Proverbs 19:10 TLB

A wise man restrains his anger and overlooks insults. This is to his credit. Proverbs 19:11 TLB

The king's anger is as dangerous as a lion's. But his approval is as refreshing as the dew on grass. Proverbs 19:12 TLB

A rebellious son is a calamity to his father, and a nagging wife annoys like constant dripping. Proverbs 19:13 TLB

A father can give his sons homes and riches, but only the Lord can give them understanding wives. Proverbs 19:14 TLB

A lazy man sleeps soundly -- and goes hungry! Proverbs 19:15 TLB

Keep the commandments and keep your life; despising them means death. Proverbs 19:16 TLB

When you help the poor you are lending to the Lord -- and he pays wonderful interest on your loan! Proverbs 19:17 TLB

Discipline your son in his early years while there is hope. If you don't you will ruin his life. Proverbs 19:18 TLB

A short-tempered man must bear his own penalty; you can't do much to help him. If you try once you must try a dozen times! Proverbs 19:19 TLB

Get all the advice you can and be wise the rest of your life. Proverbs 19:20 TLB

Man proposes, but God disposes. Proverbs 19:21 TLB

Kindness makes a man attractive. And it is better to be poor than dishonest. Proverbs 19:22 TLB

Reverence for God gives life, happiness, and protection from harm. Proverbs 19:23 TLB

Some men are so lazy they won't even feed themselves! Proverbs 19:24 TLB

Punish a mocker and others will learn from his example. Reprove a wise man and he will be the wiser. Proverbs 19:25 TLB

A son who mistreats his father or mother is a public disgrace. Proverbs 19:26 TLB

Stop listening to teaching that contradicts what you know is right. Proverbs 19:27 TLB

A worthless witness cares nothing for truth -- he enjoys his sinning too much. Proverbs 19:28 TLB

Mockers and rebels shall be severely punished. Proverbs 19:29 TLB

The king's fury is like that of a roaring lion; to rouse his anger is to risk your life. Proverbs 20:2 TLB

It is an honor for a man to stay out of a fight. Only fools insist on quarreling. Proverbs 20:3 TLB

If you won't plow in the cold, you won't eat at the harvest. Proverbs 20:4 TLB

Though good advice lies deep within a counselor's heart, the wise man will draw it out. Proverbs 20:5 TLB

Most people will tell you what loyal friends they are, but are they telling the truth? Proverbs 20:6 TLB

It is a wonderful heritage to have an honest father. Proverbs 20:7 TLB

A king sitting as judge weighs all the evidence carefully, distinguishing the true from false. Proverbs 20:8 TLB

Who can ever say, "I have cleansed my heart; I am sinless"?
Proverbs 20:9 TLB

The Lord despises every kind of cheating.
Proverbs 20:10 TLB

The character of even a child can be known by the way he acts -- whether what he does is pure and right. Proverbs 20:11 TLB

If you have good eyesight and good hearing, thank God who gave them to you.
Proverbs 20:12 TLB

If you love sleep, you will end in poverty. Stay awake, work hard, and there will be plenty to eat! Proverbs 20:13 TLB

"Utterly worthless!" says the buyer as he haggles over the price. But afterwards he brags about his bargain! Proverbs 20:14 TLB

Good sense is far more valuable than gold or precious jewels.
Proverbs 20:15 TLB

It is risky to make loans to strangers!
Proverbs 20:16 TLB

Some men enjoy cheating, but the cake they buy with such ill-gotten gain will turn to gravel in their mouths. Proverbs 20:17 TLB

Don't go ahead with your plans without the advice of others; don't go to war until they agree. Proverbs 20:18 TLB

Don't tell your secrets to a gossip unless you want them broadcast to the world. Proverbs 20:19 TLB

God puts out the light of the man who curses his father or mother.
Proverbs 20:20 TLB

A fortune can be made from cheating, but there is a curse that goes with it. Proverbs 20:21 TLB

Don't repay evil for evil. Wait for the Lord to handle the matter.
Proverbs 20:22 TLB

The Lord loathes all cheating and dishonesty.
Proverbs 20:23 TLB

Since the Lord is directing our steps, why try to understand everything that happens along the way? Proverbs 20:24 TLB

It is foolish and rash to make a promise to the Lord before counting the cost. Proverbs 20:25 TLB

A wise king stamps out crime by severe punishment.
Proverbs 20:26 TLB

A man's conscience is the Lord's searchlight exposing his hidden motives.
Proverbs 20:27 TLB

If a king is kind, honest and fair, his kingdom stands secure.
Proverbs 20:28 TLB

The glory of young men is their strength; of old men, their experience.
Proverbs 20:29 TLB

Punishment that hurts chases evil from the heart.
Proverbs 20:30 TLB

Just as water is turned into irrigation ditches, so the Lord directs the king's thoughts. He turns them wherever he wants to. Proverbs 21:1 TLB

We can justify our every deed but God looks at our motives.
Proverbs 21:2 TLB

God is more pleased when we are just and fair than when we give him gifts.
Proverbs 21:3 TLB

Pride, lust, and evil actions are all sin.
Proverbs 21:4 TLB

Steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty speculation brings poverty.
Proverbs 21:5 TLB

Dishonest gain will never last, so why take the risk?
Proverbs 21:6 TLB

Because the wicked are unfair, their violence boomerangs and destroys them.
Proverbs 21:7 TLB

A man is known by his actions. An evil man lives an evil life; a good man lives a godly life. Proverbs 21:8 TLB

It is better to live in the corner of an attic than with a crabby woman in a lovely home. Proverbs 21:9 TLB

An evil man loves to harm others; being a good neighbor is out of his line.
Proverbs 21:10 TLB

The wise man learns by listening; the simpleton can learn only by seeing scorners punished. Proverbs 21:11 TLB

The godly learn by watching ruin overtake the wicked.
Proverbs 21:12 TLB

He who shuts his ears to the cries of the poor will be ignored in his own time of need. Proverbs 21:13 TLB

An angry man is silenced by giving him a gift!
Proverbs 21:14 TLB

A good man loves justice, but it is a calamity to evil-doers.
Proverbs 21:15 TLB

The man who strays away from common sense will end up dead!
Proverbs 21:16 TLB

A man who loves pleasure becomes poor; wine and luxury are not the way to riches! Proverbs 21:17 TLB

The wicked will finally lose; the righteous will finally win.
Proverbs 21:18 TLB

Better to live in the desert than with a quarrelsome, complaining woman.
Proverbs 21:19 TLB

The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets. Proverbs 21:20 TLB

The man who tries to be good, loving and kind finds life, righteousness and honor. Proverbs 21:21 TLB

The wise man conquers the strong man and levels his defenses.
Proverbs 21:22 TLB

Keep your mouth closed and you'll stay out of trouble.
Proverbs 21:23 TLB

Mockers are proud, haughty and arrogant.
Proverbs 21:24 TLB

The lazy man longs for many things but his hands refuse to work. He is greedy to get, while the godly love to give! Proverbs 21:25-26 TLB

God loathes the gifts of evil men, especially if they are trying to bribe him! Proverbs 21:27 TLB

A false witness must be punished; an honest witness is safe.
Proverbs 21:28 TLB

An evil man is stubborn, but a godly man will reconsider.
Proverbs 21:29 TLB

No one, regardless of how shrewd or well-advised he is, can stand against the Lord. Proverbs 21:30 TLB

Go ahead and prepare for the conflict, but victory comes from God.
Proverbs 21:31 TLB

If you must choose, take a good name rather than great riches; for to be held in loving esteem is better than silver and gold. Proverbs 22:1 TLB

The rich and the poor are alike before the Lord who made them all.
Proverbs 22:2 TLB

A prudent man foresees the difficulties ahead and prepares for them; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences. Proverbs 22:3 TLB

True humility and respect for the Lord lead a man to riches, honor and long life. Proverbs 22:4 TLB

The rebel walks a thorny, treacherous road; the man who values his soul will stay away. Proverbs 22:5 TLB

Teach a child to choose the right path, and when he is older he will remain upon it. Proverbs 22:6 TLB

Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender. Proverbs 22:7 TLB

The unjust tyrant will reap disaster and his reign of terror shall end. Proverbs 22:8 TLB

Happy is the generous man, the one who feeds the poor. Proverbs 22:9 TLB

Throw out the mocker, and you will be rid of tension, fighting and quarrels. Proverbs 22:10 TLB

He who values grace and truth is the king's friend. Proverbs 22:11 TLB

The Lord preserves the upright but ruins the plans of the wicked. Proverbs 22:12 TLB

A prostitute is a dangerous trap; those cursed of God are caught in it. Proverbs 22:14 TLB

A youngster's heart is filled with rebellion, but punishment will drive it out of him. Proverbs 22:15 TLB

He who gains by oppressing the poor or by bribing the rich shall end in poverty. Proverbs 22:16 TLB

Don't rob the poor and sick! For the Lord is their defender. If you injure them he will punish you. Proverbs 22:22-23 TLB

Keep away from angry, short-tempered men, lest you learn to be like them and endanger your soul. Proverbs 22:24-25 TLB

Unless you have the extra cash on hand, don't countersign a note. Why risk everything you own? They'll even take your bed! Proverbs 22:26-27 TLB

Do not move the ancient boundary marks. That is stealing. Proverbs 22:28 TLB

Do you know a hard-working man? He shall be successful and stand before kings! Proverbs 22:29 TLB

Don't weary yourself trying to get rich. Why waste your time? For riches can disappear as though they had the wings of a bird! Proverbs 23:4-5 TLB

Don't waste your breath on a rebel. He will despise the wisest advice. Proverbs 23:9 TLB

Don't refuse to accept criticism; get all the help you can. Proverbs 23:12 TLB

My son, how I will rejoice if you become a man of common sense. Yes, my heart will thrill to your thoughtful, wise words. Proverbs 23:15-16 TLB

The father of a godly man has cause for joy -- what pleasure a wise son is!
So give your parents joy! Proverbs 23:24-25 TLB

Don't envy godless men; don't even enjoy their company. For they spend
their days plotting violence and cheating. Proverbs 24:1-2 TLB

A wise man is mightier than a strong man. Wisdom is mightier than
strength. Proverbs 24:5 TLB

Don't go to war without wise guidance; there is safety in many counselors.
Proverbs 24:6 TLB

Wisdom is too much for a rebel. He'll not be chosen as a counselor!
Proverbs 24:7 TLB

To plan evil is as wrong as doing it.
Proverbs 24:8 TLB

The rebel's schemes are sinful, and the mocker is the scourge of all
mankind. Proverbs 24:9 TLB

You are a poor specimen if you can't stand the pressure of adversity.
Proverbs 24:10 TLB

Don't envy the wicked. Don't covet his riches. For the evil man has no
future; his light will be snuffed out. Proverbs 24:19-20 TLB

It is an honor to receive a frank reply.
Proverbs 24:26 TLB

Develop your business first before building your house.
Proverbs 24:27 TLB

Timely advice is as lovely as golden apples in a silver basket.
Proverbs 25:11 TLB

It is a badge of honor to accept valid criticism.
Proverbs 25:12 TLB

A faithful employee is as refreshing as a cool day in the hot summertime.
Proverbs 25:13 TLB

One who doesn't give the gift he promised is like a cloud blowing over a
desert without dropping any rain. Proverbs 25:14 TLB

Be patient and you will finally win, for a soft tongue can break hard
bones. Proverbs 25:15 TLB

Do you like honey? Don't eat too much of it, or it will make you sick!
Proverbs 25:16 TLB

Don't visit your neighbor too often, or you will outwear your welcome!
Proverbs 25:17 TLB

Putting confidence in an unreliable man is like chewing with a sore tooth,
or trying to run on a broken foot. Proverbs 25:19 TLB

As surely as a wind from the north brings cold, just as surely a retort causes anger! Proverbs 25:23 TLB

It is better to live in a corner of an attic than in a beautiful home with a cranky, quarrelsome woman. Proverbs 25:24 TLB

Good news from far away is like cold water to the thirsty. Proverbs 25:25 TLB

If a godly man compromises with the wicked, it is like polluting a fountain or muddying a spring. Proverbs 25:26 TLB

Just as it is harmful to eat too much honey, so also it is bad for men to think about all the honors they deserve! Proverbs 25:27 TLB

A man without self-control is as defenseless as a city with broken-down walls. Proverbs 25:28 TLB

Honor doesn't go with fools any more than snow with summertime or rain with harvest time! Proverbs 26:1 TLB

Guide a horse with a whip, a donkey with a bridle, and a rebel with a rod to his back! Proverbs 26:3 TLB

To trust a rebel to convey a message is as foolish as cutting off your feet and drinking poison! Proverbs 26:6 TLB

In the mouth of a fool a proverb becomes as useless as a paralyzed leg. Proverbs 26:7 TLB

Honoring a rebel will backfire like a stone tied to a slingshot! Proverbs 26:8 TLB

A rebel will misapply an illustration so that its point will no more be felt than a thorn in the hand of a drunkard. Proverbs 26:9 TLB

The master may get better work from an untrained apprentice than from a skilled rebel! Proverbs 26:10 TLB

As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool repeats his folly. Proverbs 26:11 TLB

There is one thing worse than a fool, and that is a man who is conceited. Proverbs 26:12 TLB

Yanking a dog's ears is no more foolish than interfering in an argument that isn't any of your business. Proverbs 26:17 TLB

Fire goes out for lack of fuel, and tensions disappear when gossip stops. Proverbs 26:20 TLB

A quarrelsome man starts fights as easily as a match sets fire to paper. Proverbs 26:21 TLB

Gossip is a dainty morsel eaten with great relish. Proverbs 26:22 TLB

Pretty words may hide a wicked heart, just as a pretty glaze covers a common clay pot. Proverbs 26:23 TLB

Flattery is a form of hatred and wounds cruelly. Proverbs 26:28 TLB

Don't brag about your plans for tomorrow -- wait and see what happens. Proverbs 27:1 TLB

Don't praise yourself; let others do it! Proverbs 27:2 TLB

A rebel's frustrations are heavier than sand and rocks. Proverbs 27:3 TLB

Jealousy is more dangerous and cruel than anger. Proverbs 27:4 TLB

Open rebuke is better than hidden love! Proverbs 27:5 TLB

Wounds from a friend are better than kisses from an enemy! Proverbs 27:6 TLB

Even honey seems tasteless to a man who is full; but if he is hungry, he'll eat anything! Proverbs 27:7 TLB

A man who strays from home is like a bird that wanders from its nest. Proverbs 27:8 TLB

Friendly suggestions are as pleasant as perfume. Proverbs 27:9 TLB

My son, how happy I will be if you turn out to be sensible! It will be a public honor to me. Proverbs 27:11 TLB

A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them. The simpleton never looks, and suffers the consequences. Proverbs 27:12 TLB

The world's poorest credit risk is the man who agrees to pay a stranger's debts. Proverbs 27:13 TLB

If you shout a pleasant greeting to a friend too early in the morning, he will count it as a curse! Proverbs 27:14 TLB

A friendly discussion is as stimulating as the sparks that fly when iron strikes iron. Proverbs 27:17 TLB

A workman may eat from the orchard he tends; anyone should be rewarded who protects another's interests. Proverbs 27:18 TLB

A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses. Proverbs 27:19 TLB

Ambition and death are alike in this: neither is ever satisfied. Proverbs 27:20 TLB

The purity of silver and gold can be tested in a crucible, but a man is tested by his reaction to men's praise. Proverbs 27:21 TLB

You can't separate a rebel from his foolishness though you crush him to powder. Proverbs 27:22 TLB

When there is moral rot within a nation, its government topples easily; but with honest, sensible leaders there is stability. Proverbs 28:2 TLB

The wicked flee when no one is chasing them! But the godly are bold as lions! Proverbs 28:1 TLB

When a poor man oppresses those even poorer, he is like an unexpected flood sweeping away their last hope. Proverbs 28:3 TLB

To complain about the law is to praise wickedness. To obey the law is to fight evil. Proverbs 28:4 TLB

Evil men don't understand the importance of justice, but those who follow the Lord are much concerned about it. Proverbs 28:5 TLB

Better to be poor and honest than rich and a cheater. Proverbs 28:6 TLB

Young men who are wise obey the law; a son who is a member of a lawless gang is a shame to his father. Proverbs 28:7 TLB

Income from exploiting the poor will end up in the hands of someone who pities them. Proverbs 28:8 TLB

God doesn't listen to the prayers of men who flout the law. Proverbs 28:9 TLB

A curse on those who lead astray the godly. But men who encourage the upright to do good shall be given a worthwhile reward. Proverbs 28:10 TLB

Rich men are conceited, but their real poverty is evident to the poor. Proverbs 28:11 TLB

When the godly are successful, everyone is glad. When the wicked succeed, everyone is sad. Proverbs 28:12 TLB

A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance. Proverbs 28:13 TLB

Blessed is the man who reveres God, but the man who doesn't care is headed for serious trouble. Proverbs 28:14 TLB

A wicked ruler is as dangerous to the poor as a lion or bear attacking them. Proverbs 28:15 TLB

Only a stupid prince will oppress his people, but a king will have a long reign if he hates dishonesty and bribes. Proverbs 28:16 TLB

A murderer's conscience will drive him into hell. Don't stop him! Proverbs 28:17 TLB

Good men will be rescued from harm, but cheaters will be destroyed.
Proverbs 28:18 TLB

Hard work brings prosperity; playing around brings poverty.
Proverbs 28:19 TLB

The man who wants to do right will get a rich reward. But the man who wants to get rich quick will quickly fail. Proverbs 28:20 TLB

Giving preferred treatment to rich people is a clear case of selling one's soul for a piece of bread. Proverbs 28:21 TLB

Trying to get rich quick is evil and leads to poverty.
Proverbs 28:22 TLB

In the end, people appreciate frankness more than flattery.
Proverbs 28:23 TLB

A man who robs his parents and says, "What's wrong with that?" is no better than a murderer. Proverbs 28:24 TLB

Greed causes fighting; trusting God leads to prosperity.
Proverbs 28:25 TLB

A man is a fool to trust himself! But those who use God's wisdom are safe.
Proverbs 28:26 TLB

If you give to the poor, your needs will be supplied! But a curse upon those who close their eyes to poverty. Proverbs 28:27 TLB

When the wicked prosper, good men go away; when the wicked meet disaster, good men return. Proverbs 28:28 TLB

The man who is often reproved but refuses to accept criticism will suddenly be broken and never have another chance. Proverbs 29:1 TLB

With good men in authority, the people rejoice; but with the wicked in power, they groan. Proverbs 29:2 TLB

A wise son makes his father happy, but a lad who hangs around with prostitutes disgraces him. Proverbs 29:3 TLB

A just king gives stability to his nation, but one who demands bribes destroys it. Proverbs 29:4 TLB

Flattery is a trap; evil men are caught in it, but good men stay away and sing for joy. Proverbs 29:5-6 TLB

The good man knows the poor man's rights; the godless don't care.
Proverbs 29:7 TLB

Fools start fights everywhere while wise men try to keep peace.
Proverbs 29:8 TLB

There's no use arguing with a fool. He only rages and scoffs, and tempers flare. Proverbs 29:9 TLB

The godly pray for those who long to kill them.
Proverbs 29:10 TLB

A rebel shouts in anger; a wise man holds his temper in and cools it.
Proverbs 29:11 TLB

A wicked ruler will have wicked aides on his staff.
Proverbs 29:12 TLB

Rich and poor are alike in this: each depends on God for light.
Proverbs 29:13 TLB

A king who is fair to the poor shall have a long reign.
Proverbs 29:14 TLB

Scolding and spanking a child helps him to learn. Left to himself, he brings shame to his mother. Proverbs 29:15 TLB

When rulers are wicked, their people are too; but good men will live to see the tyrant's downfall. Proverbs 29:16 TLB

Discipline your son and he will give you happiness and peace of mind.
Proverbs 29:17 TLB

Where there is ignorance of God, the people run wild; but what a wonderful thing it is for a nation to know and keep his laws! Proverbs 29:18 TLB

Sometimes mere words are not enough -- discipline is needed. For the words may not be heeded. Proverbs 29:19 TLB

There is more hope for a fool than for a man of quick temper.
Proverbs 29:20 TLB

Pamper a servant from childhood, and he will expect you to treat him as a son! Proverbs 29:21 TLB

A hot-tempered man starts fights and gets into all kinds of trouble.
Proverbs 29:22 TLB

Pride ends in a fall, while humility brings honor.
Proverbs 29:23 TLB

A man who assists a thief must really hate himself! For he knows the consequence but does it anyway. Proverbs 29:24 TLB

Fear of man is a dangerous trap, but to trust in God means safety.
Proverbs 29:25 TLB

Do you want justice? Don't fawn on the judge, but ask the Lord for it!
Proverbs 29:26 TLB

The good hate the badness of the wicked. The wicked hate the goodness of the good. Proverbs 29:27 TLB

Never falsely accuse a man to his employer, lest he curse you for your sin.
Proverbs 30:10 TLB

A man who mocks his father and despises his mother shall have his eye plucked out by ravens and eaten by vultures. Proverbs 30:17 TLB

If you have been a fool by being proud or plotting evil, don't brag about it -- cover your mouth with your hand in shame. Proverbs 30:32 TLB

As the churning of cream yields butter, and a blow to the nose causes bleeding, so anger causes quarrels. Proverbs 30:33 TLB

O my son, whom I have dedicated to the Lord, do not spend your time with women -- the royal pathway to destruction. Proverbs 31:2-3 TLB

You should defend those who cannot help themselves. Yes, speak up for the poor and needy and see that they get justice. Proverbs 31:8-9 TLB

Only fools refuse to be taught. Listen to your father and mother. What you learn from them will stand you in good stead; it will gain you many honors. Proverbs 1:8-9 TLB

He shows how to distinguish right from wrong, how to find the right decision every time. For wisdom and truth will enter the very center of your being, filling your life with joy. Proverbs 2:9-10 TLB

Follow the steps of the godly instead, and stay on the right path, for only good men enjoy life to the full; evil men lose the good things they might have had, and they themselves shall be destroyed. Proverbs 2:20-22 TLB

Don't be conceited, sure of your own wisdom. Instead, trust and reverence the Lord, and turn your back on evil; when you do that, then you will be given renewed health and vitality. Proverbs 3:7-8 TLB

Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns with wheat and barley and overflow your wine vats with the finest wines. Proverbs 3:9-10 TLB

The Lord's wisdom founded the earth; his understanding established all the universe and space. The deep fountains of the earth were broken open by his knowledge, and the skies poured down rain. Proverbs 3:19-20 TLB

Don't get into needless fights. Don't envy violent men. Don't copy their ways. For such men are an abomination to the Lord, but he gives his friendship to the godly. Proverbs 3:30-32 TLB

"Learn to be wise," he said, "and develop good judgment and common sense!_ I cannot overemphasize this point." Cling to wisdom -- she will protect you. Love her -- she will guard you. Proverbs 4:5-6 TLB

If you exalt wisdom, she will exalt you. Hold her fast and she will lead you to great honor; she will place a beautiful crown upon your head. Proverbs 4:8-9 TLB

But the good man walks along in the ever-brightening light of God's favor; the dawn gives way to morning splendor, while the evil man gropes and stumbles in the dark. Proverbs 4:18-19 TLB

Listen to me, my son! I know what I am saying; *listen!* Watch yourself, lest you be indiscreet and betray some vital information. Proverbs 5:1-2 TLB

The wicked man is doomed by his own sins; they are ropes that catch and hold him. He shall die because he will not listen to the truth; he has let himself be led away into incredible folly. Proverbs 5:22-23 TLB

For there are six things the Lord hates -- no, seven: Haughtiness - Lying - Murdering - Plotting evil - Eagerness to do wrong - A false witness - Sowing discord among brothers. Proverbs 6:16-19 TLB

Young man, obey your father and your mother. Tie their instructions around your finger so you won't forget. Take to heart all of their advice. Proverbs 6:20-21 TLB

For the value of wisdom is far above rubies; nothing can be compared with it. Wisdom and good judgment live together, for wisdom knows where to discover knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 8:11-12 TLB

You can be very sure that the evil man will not go unpunished forever. And you can also be very sure that God will rescue the children of the godly. Proverbs 11:21 TLB

It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything. Yes, the liberal man shall be rich! By watering others, he waters himself. Proverbs 11:24-25 TLB

The fool who provokes his family to anger and resentment will finally have nothing worthwhile left. He shall be the servant of a wiser man. Proverbs 11:29 TLB

The advice of a wise man refreshes like water from a mountain spring. Those accepting it become aware of the pitfalls on ahead. Proverbs 13:14 TLB

When a good man dies, he leaves an inheritance to his grandchildren; but when a sinner dies, his wealth is stored up for the godly. Proverbs 13:22 TLB

If you profit from constructive criticism you will be elected to the wise men's hall of fame. But to reject criticism is to harm yourself and your own best interests. Proverbs 15:31-32 TLB

The man of few words and settled mind is wise; therefore, even a fool is thought to be wise when he is silent. It pays him to keep his mouth shut. Proverbs 17:27-28 TLB

It is harder to win back the friendship of an offended brother than to capture a fortified city. His anger shuts you out like iron bars. Proverbs 18:19 TLB

A poor man's own brothers turn away from him in embarrassment; how much more his friends! He calls after them, but they are gone. Proverbs 19:7 TLB

Wine gives false courage; hard liquor leads to brawls; what fools men are to let it master them, making them reel drunkenly down the street! Proverbs 20:1 TLB

The lazy man is full of excuses. "I can't go to work!" he says. "If I go outside I might meet a lion in the street and be killed!" Proverbs 22:13 TLB

When dining with a rich man, be on your guard and don't stuff yourself, though it all tastes so good; for he is trying to bribe you, and no good is going to come of his invitation. Proverbs 23:1-3 TLB

Don't steal the land of defenseless orphans by moving their ancient boundary marks, for their Redeemer is strong; he himself will accuse you. Proverbs 23:10-11 TLB

Don't fail to correct your children; discipline won't hurt them! They won't die if you use a stick on them! Punishment will keep them out of hell. Proverbs 23:13-14 TLB

Don't envy evil men but continue to reverence the Lord all the time, for surely you have a wonderful future ahead of you. There is hope for you yet! Proverbs 23:17-18 TLB

When dining with a rich man, be on your guard and don't stuff yourself, though it all tastes so good; for he is trying to bribe you, and no good is going to come of his invitation. Proverbs 23:1-3 TLB

O my son, trust my advice -- stay away from prostitutes. For a prostitute is a deep and narrow grave. Like a robber, she waits for her victims as one after another become unfaithful to their wives. Proverbs 23:26-28 TLB

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts. Proverbs 24:3-4 TLB

My son, honey whets the appetite, and so does wisdom! When you enjoy becoming wise, there is hope for you! A bright future lies ahead! Proverbs 24:13-14 TLB

Do not rejoice when your enemy meets trouble. Let there be no gladness when he falls -- for the Lord may be displeased with you and stop punishing him! Proverbs 24:17-18 TLB

My son, watch your step before the Lord and the king, and don't associate with radicals. For you will go down with them to sudden disaster, and who knows where it all will end? Proverbs 24:21-22 TLB

Don't testify spitefully against an innocent neighbor. Why lie about him? Don't say, "Now I can pay him back for all his meanness to me!" Proverbs 24:28-29 TLB

It is God's privilege to conceal things, and the king's privilege to discover and invent. You cannot understand the height of heaven, the size of the earth, or all that goes on in the king's mind! Proverbs 25:2-3 TLB

When you remove dross from silver, you have sterling ready for the silversmith. When you remove corrupt men from the king's court, his reign will be just and fair. Proverbs 25:4-5 TLB

Don't demand an audience with the king as though you were some powerful prince. It is better to wait for an invitation rather than to be sent back to the end of the line, publicly disgraced! Proverbs 25:6-7 TLB

Telling lies about someone is as harmful as hitting him with an axe, or wounding him with a sword, or shooting him with a sharp arrow. Proverbs 25:18 TLB

Being happy-go-lucky around a person whose heart is heavy is as bad as stealing his jacket in cold weather, or rubbing salt in his wounds. Proverbs 25:20 TLB

If your enemy is hungry, give him food! If he is thirsty, give him something to drink! This will make him feel ashamed of himself, and God will reward you. Proverbs 25:21-22 TLB

An undeserved curse has no effect. Its intended victim will be no more harmed by it than by a sparrow or swallow flitting through the sky. Proverbs 26:2 TLB

When arguing with a rebel, don't use foolish arguments as he does, or you will become as foolish as he is! Prick his conceit with silly replies! Proverbs 26:4-5 TLB

A man who is caught lying to his neighbor and says, "I was just fooling," is like a madman throwing around firebrands, arrows and death! Proverbs 26:18-19 TLB

The man who sets a trap for others will get caught in it himself. Roll a boulder down on someone, and it will roll back and crush you. Proverbs 26:27 TLB

Never abandon a friend -- either yours or your father's. Then you won't need to go to a distant relative for help in your time of need. Proverbs 27:10 TLB

A constant dripping on a rainy day and a cranky woman are much alike! You can no more stop her complaints than you can stop the wind or hold onto anything with oil-slick hands. Proverbs 27:15-16 TLB

Every word of God proves true. He defends all who come to him for protection. Do not add to his words, lest he rebuke you, and you be found a liar. Proverbs 30:5-6 TLB

There are two things never satisfied, like a leech forever craving more: no, three things! no, four! Hell -- The barren womb -- A barren desert -- Fire. Proverbs 30:15-16 TLB

And it is not for kings..., to drink wine and whiskey. For if they drink they may forget their duties and be unable to give justice to those who are oppressed. Proverbs 31:4-5 TLB

Hard liquor is for sick men at the brink of death, and wine for those in deep depression. Let them drink to forget their poverty and misery. Proverbs 31:6-7 TLB

If you find a truly good wife, she is worth more than precious gems! Her husband can trust her, and she will richly satisfy his needs. She will not hinder him, but help him all her life. Proverbs 31:10-12 TLB

You will be given the sense to stay away from evil men who want you to be their partners in crime -- men who turn from God's ways to walk down dark and evil paths, and exult in doing wrong, for they thoroughly enjoy their sins. Everything they do is crooked and wrong. Proverbs 2:11-15 TLB

My son, never forget the things I've taught you. If you want a long and satisfying life, closely follow my instructions. Never forget to be truthful and kind. Hold these virtues tightly. Write them deep within your heart. Proverbs 3:1-3 TLB

If you want favor with both God and man, and a reputation for good judgment and common sense, then trust the Lord completely; don't ever trust yourself. In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. Proverbs 3:4-6 TLB

Young man, do not resent it when God chastens and corrects you, for his punishment is proof of his love. Just as a father punishes a son he delights in to make him better, so the Lord corrects you. Proverbs 3:11-12 TLB

The man who knows right from wrong and has good judgment and common sense is happier than the man who is immensely rich! For such wisdom is far more valuable than precious jewels. Nothing else compares with it. Proverbs 3:13-15 TLB

I would have you learn this great fact: that a life of doing right is the wisest life there is. If you live that kind of life, you'll not limp or stumble as you run. Carry out my instructions; don't forget them, for they will lead you to real living. Proverbs 4:11-13 TLB

Don't do as the wicked do. Avoid their haunts -- turn away, go somewhere else, for evil men don't sleep until they've done their evil deed for the day. They can't rest unless they cause someone to stumble and fall. They eat and drink wickedness and violence! Proverbs 4:14-17 TLB

If you rebuke a mocker, you will only get a smart retort; yes, he will snarl at you. So don't bother with him; he will only hate you for trying to help him. But a wise man, when rebuked, will love you all the more. Proverbs 9:7-8 TLB

Listen to this wise advice; follow it closely, for it will do you good, and you can pass it on to others: TRUST IN THE LORD. In the past, haven't I been right? Then believe what I am telling you now, and share it with others. Proverbs 22:17-21 TLB

Whose heart is filled with anguish and sorrow? Who is always fighting and quarreling? Who is the man with bloodshot eyes and many wounds? It is the one who spends long hours in the taverns, trying out new mixtures. Proverbs 23:29-30 TLB

O evil man, leave the upright man alone, and quit trying to cheat him out of his rights. Don't you know that this good man, though you trip him up seven times, will each time rise again? But one calamity is enough to lay you low. Proverbs 24:15-16 TLB

It is wrong to sentence the poor, and let the rich go free. He who says to the wicked, "You are innocent," shall be cursed by many people of many nations; but blessings shall be showered on those who rebuke sin fearlessly. Proverbs 24:23-25 TLB

Don't be hot-headed and rush to court! You may start something you can't finish and go down before your neighbor in shameful defeat. So discuss the matter with him privately. Don't tell anyone else, lest he accuse you of slander and you can't withdraw what you said. Proverbs 25:8-10 TLB

The lazy man won't go out and work. "There might be a lion outside!" he says. He sticks to his bed like a door to its hinges! He is too tired even to lift his food from his dish to his mouth! Yet in his own opinion he is smarter than seven wise men. Proverbs 26:13-16 TLB

A man with hate in his heart may sound pleasant enough, but don't believe him; for he is cursing you in his heart. Though he pretends to be so kind, his hatred will finally come to light for all to see. Proverbs 26:24-26 TLB

There are those who curse their father and mother, and feel themselves faultless despite their many sins. They are proud beyond description, arrogant, disdainful. They devour the poor with teeth as sharp as knives! Proverbs 30:11-14 TLB

There are three things too wonderful for me to understand -- no, four! How an eagle glides through the sky. How a serpent crawls upon a rock. How a ship finds its way across the heaving ocean. The growth of love between a man and a girl. Proverbs 30:18-19 TLB

Charm can be deceptive and beauty doesn't last, but a woman who fears and reverences God shall be greatly praised. Praise her for the many fine things she does. These good deeds of hers shall bring her honor and recognition from even the leaders of the nations. Proverbs 31:30-31 TLB

Only wisdom from the Lord can save a man from the flattery of prostitutes; these girls have abandoned their husbands and flouted the laws of God. Their houses lie along the road to death and hell. The men who enter them are doomed. None of these men will ever be the same again. Proverbs 2:16-19 TLB

Above all else, guard your affections. For they influence everything else in your life. Spurn the careless kiss of a prostitute. Stay far from her. Look straight ahead; don't even turn your head to look. Watch your step. Stick to the path and be safe. Don't sidetrack; pull back your foot from danger. Proverbs 4:23-27 TLB

Let your manhood be a blessing; rejoice in the wife of your youth. Let her charms and tender embrace satisfy you. Let her love alone fill you with delight. Why delight yourself with prostitutes, embracing what isn't yours? *For God is closely watching you,* and he weighs carefully everything you do. Proverbs 5:18-21 TLB

For a prostitute will bring a man to poverty, and an adulteress may cost him his very life. Can a man hold fire against his chest and not be burned? Can he walk on hot coals and not blister his feet? So it is with the man who commits adultery with another's wife. He shall not go unpunished for this sin. Proverbs 6:26-29 TLB

But the man who commits adultery is an utter fool, for he destroys his own soul. Wounds and constant disgrace are his lot, for the woman's husband will be furious in his jealousy, and he will have no mercy on you in his day of vengeance. You won't be able to buy him off no matter what you offer. Proverbs 6:32-35 TLB

For the reverence and fear of God are basic to all wisdom. Knowing God results in every other kind of understanding. "I, Wisdom, will make the hours of your day more profitable and the years of your life more fruitful." Wisdom is its own reward, and if you scorn her, you hurt only yourself. Proverbs 9:10-12 TLB

Don't associate with evil men; don't long for their favors and gifts. Their kindness is a trick; they want to use you as their pawn. The delicious food they serve will turn sour in your stomach and you will vomit it, and have to take back your words of appreciation for their "kindness." Proverbs 23:6-8 TLB

O my son, be wise and stay in God's paths; don't carouse with drunkards and gluttons, for they are on their way to poverty. And remember that too much sleep clothes a man with rags. Listen to your father's advice and don't despise an old mother's experience. Get the facts at any price, and hold on tightly to all the good sense you can get. Proverbs 23:19-23 TLB

Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to disclaim responsibility by saying you didn't know about it. For God, who knows all hearts, knows yours, and he knows you knew! And he will reward everyone according to his deeds. Proverbs 24:11-12 TLB

O God, I beg two favors from you before I die: First, help me never to tell a lie. Second, give me neither poverty nor riches! Give me just enough to satisfy my needs! For if I grow rich, I may become content without God. And if I am too poor, I may steal, and thus insult God's holy name. Proverbs 30:7-9 TLB

Every young man who listens to me and obeys my instructions will be given wisdom and good sense. Yes, if you want better insight and discernment, and are searching for them as you would for lost money or hidden treasure, then wisdom will be given you, and knowledge of God himself; you will soon learn the importance of reverence for the Lord and of trusting him. Proverbs 2:1-5 TLB

Have two goals: wisdom -- that is, knowing and doing right -- and common sense. Don't let them slip away, for they fill you with living energy, and are a feather in your cap. They keep you safe from defeat and disaster and from stumbling off the trail. With them on guard you can sleep without fear; you need not be afraid of disaster or the plots of wicked men, for the Lord is with you; he protects you. Proverbs 3:21-26 TLB

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazy fellow. Learn from their ways and be wise! For though they have no king to make them work, yet they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. But you -- all you do is sleep. When will you wake up? "Let me sleep a little longer!" Sure, just a little more! And as you sleep, poverty creeps upon you like a robber and destroys you; want attacks you in full armor. Proverbs 6:6-11 TLB

Let me describe for you a worthless and a wicked man; first, he is a constant liar; he signals his true intentions to his friends with eyes and feet and fingers. Next, his heart is full of rebellion. And he spends his time thinking of all the evil he can do, and stirring up discontent. But he will be destroyed suddenly, broken beyond hope of healing.

Proverbs 6:12-15 TLB

A prostitute is loud and brash, and never has enough of lust and shame. She sits at the door of her house or stands at the street corners of the city, whispering to men going by, and to those minding their own business. "Come home with me," she urges simpletons. "Stolen melons are the sweetest; stolen apples taste the best!" But they don't realize that her former guests are now citizens of hell. Proverbs 9:13-18 TLB

I walked by the field of a certain lazy fellow and saw that it was overgrown with thorns, and covered with weeds; and its walls were broken down. Then, as I looked, I learned this lesson: "A little extra sleep -- A little more slumber -- A little folding of the hands to rest" -- means that poverty will break in upon you suddenly like a robber, and violently like a bandit. Proverbs 24:30-34 TLB

Riches can disappear fast. And the king's crown doesn't stay in his family forever -- so watch your business interests closely. Know the state of your flocks and your herds; then there will be lamb's wool enough for clothing, and goat's milk enough for food for all your household after the hay is harvested, and the new crop appears, and the mountain grasses are gathered in. Proverbs 27:23-27 TLB

There are four things that are small but unusually wise: Ants: they aren't strong, but store up food for the winter. Cliff badgers: delicate little animals who protect themselves by living among the rocks. The locusts: though they have no leader, they stay together in swarms. The lizards: they are easy to catch and kill, yet are found even in king's palaces! Proverbs 30:24-28 TLB

Son, if you endorse a note for someone you hardly know, guaranteeing his debt, you are in serious trouble. You may have trapped yourself by your agreement. Quick! Get out of it if you possibly can! Swallow your pride; don't let embarrassment stand in the way. Go and beg to have your name erased. Don't put it off. Do it now. Don't rest until you do. If you can get out of this trap you have saved yourself like a deer that escapes from a hunter, or a bird from the net. Proverbs 6:1-5 TLB

Don't let the sparkle and the smooth taste of strong wine deceive you. For in the end it bites like a poisonous serpent; it stings like an adder. You will see hallucinations and have delirium tremens, and you will say foolish, silly things that would embarrass you no end when sober. You will stagger like a sailor tossed at sea, clinging to a swaying mast. And afterwards you will say, "I didn't even know it when they beat me up... Let's go and have another drink!" Proverbs 23:31-35 TLB