

PROVERBS 11 vs 1

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The Proverbs were first read by the royal families; the House of Judah, who were the Praise of God; and the House of Israel those who claimed to be Ruled by God. The Proverbs are short, weighty sentences; most of them are two sentences in one verse, illustrating each other, but seldom is there any coherence between verses. Their purpose is to set before us what is right and what is wrong. Solomon had 700 wives and 300 girlfriends – **ignoring his royal responsibility** – and ended his life saying he played the fool; his kingdom was taken from him and then he died – having done wrong in the sight of the Lord. The Proverbs still speak to the way of the wrong, as well as the way of the right.



1 A false balance disgusts the LORD: but a just weight is His delight.

2 When pride comes, disgrace comes also: but with the modest is wisdom.

3 The integrity of the upright will guide them: the perversity of the wrong-doers will ruin them.

4 On the day of God's anger riches will not profit them: but doing right delivers from death.

5 The one doing right directs his path: but the wrong falls by his own wrongdoings.

6 The rightness of the upright will deliver them: but rebels will be undone in their schemes.

7 When a right man dies, his hope does not perish: but the hope of unjust men perishes.

8 The upright is delivered from trouble, but the wrongdoer takes his place.

9 A fool ruins his neighbor with slander: but through knowledge the just is delivered.

10 When it goes well with the right, a city rejoices: when the wrong perish, there is great joy.

11 By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted: but torn down by the mouth of the wrong.

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¹² He who despises his neighbor has no sense: but a man of understanding keeps silent.

¹³ One who gossips reveals secrets: but he who is trustworthy conceals the matter.

¹⁴ For lack of guidance, the people fall: but in much guidance there is safety.

¹⁵ He who bails out a stranger will suffer for it: but he who hates giving bail is secure.

¹⁶ A charming woman can win honor: but brute men only win money.

¹⁷ A merciful man does himself good: but a cruel man harms himself.

¹⁸ What the wrongdoer works is not real: but he who sows rightly gains a true reward.

¹⁹ As doing right tends to life: so the one who pursues doing wrong, does so to his own death.

²⁰ Those with a perverse heart disgust the LORD: but those who are upright are His delight.

²¹ For all the hand-shaking, the wrongdoer will not go unpunished: but the descendants of the right will be delivered.

²² Like a jewel of gold in a pig's snout, so is a pretty woman with no sense.

²³ What right men desire ends to their good: what wrong men hope ends with God's anger.

²⁴ One gives away, and yet increases; another hordes what can be given, and is the poorer.

²⁵ The generous one will be enriched: and he who refreshes will himself be refreshed.

²⁶ He who hordes grain, the people will curse:

but blessing will be on the head of him who sells.

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²⁷ **He who diligently seeks good obtains favor:** but he whose aims are evil, it will fall on him.

²⁸ **He who leans on his riches will fall; but those doing right will flourish like the green leaf.**

²⁹ He who troubles his own house inherits the wind: a fool like that will be a wise man's slave.

³⁰ The fruit of the upright is like a tree of life; and he who is wise wins souls.

³¹ **Indeed, if those doing right will be rewarded on the earth: how much more the wrongdoers and the sinner.**

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