

PROVERBS 21 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 – **losing 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 The LORD sways the heart of a king, like streams of water: He turns it wherever He will.

² The way of man is always right in his own eyes: but the LORD knows the heart.

³ Doing what is just and right is more pleasing to the LORD than sacrifices.

⁴ A snooty look, an arrogant heart, and the displaying of the wrong, is sin.

⁵ The thoughts of the diligent tend toward plenty; but the lazy will end in want.

⁶ Getting treasures by fraud, is like chasing a bubble to their own doom.

⁷ The violence of the wrongdoer will destroy them; because they refuse to act with justice.

⁸ The way of the insolent follow a crooked course: but a good man's conduct is right.

⁹ Better to live in a corner of the roof, than in a mansion with a brawling woman.

¹⁰ The wrongdoer bent on doing harm: finds no favor in the eyes of his neighbor.

¹¹ When a scoffer is punished, a fool is made wise: the wise learn when they are taught.

¹² The right one considers the house of the wrong: God overturns the wrong to their ruin.

¹³ The one who is deaf to the cry of the poor, one day he also will cry, but will not be heard.

¹⁴ A secret bribe may pacify anger: and a promised bribe strong wrath,

¹⁵ but justice done is joy to the upright: but terror to the workers of crimes.

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16 The one who wanders from the way of understanding will find rest among the living-dead.

17 He who is fond of pleasure will grow poor: he who is fond of wine and oil will not be rich.

18 The wrongdoer is as a ransom for the right, and the offender is for the upright / scrutinizing both of them, therein is a good lesson to learn for the right – what not to experience.

19 Better to live in a lonely desert, than with a nagging, angry woman.

20 There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a fool squanders it.

21 He who pursues righteousness and mercy, finds rightness, and honor, and life / in other words, the Lord is our righteousness, so pursue Him and win big.

22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty, and overthrows its stronghold and confidence.

23 The one who guards his mouth and tongue, will guard his soul from trouble.

24 “Proud,” “Haughty,” “Scoffer,” are the names, of the one who acts in insolent pride.

25 The desire of the lazy will kill him; because his hands refuse to work;

26 all day long he covets greedily: while the right works without ceasing.

27 The sacrifice of the wrong God abhors: how much more, when it’s brought with evil intent.

28 A dishonest witness will pass away: but the one who speaks truth will be remembered.

29 A wrongdoer shows his hard head defiance: but the upright makes his way secure.

30 No wisdom, no skill, no strategy can prevail against the LORD.

31 The cavalry is prepared against the day of battle: but victory belongs to the LORD.

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