## PROVERBS 24 vs 1



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 - gnoring 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.



## <sup>1</sup>Do not be envious of evil men, nor desire their company.

- <sup>2</sup> For their one thought creates destruction, and their lips speak of trouble.
- <sup>3</sup> What builds a house is wisdom; it is erected by understanding:
- <sup>4</sup> and knowledge furnishes the rooms with all that is rare and pleasant.
- <sup>5</sup> A wise man is stronger than a warrior; yes, a man of knowledge is stronger than the brawny.
- <sup>6</sup> For by wise guidance you wage war: and in an abundance of advisers there is victory.
- <sup>7</sup> Wisdom is beyond a fool's reach: so he has nothing to say at the gate.
- <sup>8</sup> He who plans wrongdoing, men call him a schemer.
- <sup>9</sup> The plans of a fool is devious: and a wrongdoer is disgusting to men.
- <sup>10</sup> If you are slack in the day of adversity, then your strength will be small.
- 11 Rescue those who are drawn to death; deliver any who are ready to be doomed;
- <sup>12</sup> You say, But I knew nothing of it; yet He who reads the heart sees through you? He who guards your soul, He knows. Will He not render to each man according to what he did?
- <sup>13</sup> My son, eat honey -- it is good; and honey from the comb is sweet to your taste:
- <sup>14</sup>So know that wisdom is thus to your soul: when you have found it, then there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off.
- <sup>15</sup>O villain, do not lay in wait against the home of the upright; do not ransack his house:

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- <sup>16</sup> for a right man may fall seven times, and rises again: but the wrong stumbles in disaster.
- <sup>17</sup> Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, never be glad when he stumbles:
- <sup>18</sup> lest the LORD see it, and in displeasure, divert His wrath from him to you.

## <sup>19</sup> Never fret over evildoers, never envy the wrongdoer:

- <sup>20</sup> for there will be no future for the bad man; the lamp of the wrongdoer will be put out.
- <sup>21</sup>My son, fear the LORD and the king: do not associate with those who oppose authority.
- <sup>22</sup> For their calamity will rise suddenly; and who knows the ruin that comes from them both?
- <sup>23</sup> These also are the sayings of the wise: It is not right to show partiality in judgment.
- <sup>24</sup> He who says to the wrong, You are right; they will curse him, nations will abhor him:
- <sup>25</sup> but true friends who rebuke him will be a delight, and good blessing will come upon them.
- <sup>26</sup> He seals a right answer with a kiss.
- <sup>27</sup> First work your field, and prepare the soil; and afterwards marry and set up your house.
- <sup>28</sup> Never give baseless evidence against your neighbor, nor mislead another by what you say.
- <sup>29</sup> Do not think, I will treat him as he treated me. I will repay the man for what he did.
- <sup>30</sup> I passed by the field of the lazy, and by the vineyard of the man lacking sense:
- <sup>31</sup> it was overgrown with thorns; thistles covered its surface, and its wall was broken down.
- 32 When I saw it, I thought about it: and received insight from what I saw.
- <sup>33</sup> A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to snooze:
- <sup>34</sup> yes, and poverty, like a thief will pounce on you; and your want will overpower you.