

Proverbs 16:1-33 **More Concise Straight and Contrasting Statements**

Wisdom Is Better Than Gold

- 1 The preparations of the heart *belong* to man,
But the answer of the tongue *is* from Yahweh (the LORD).
- 2 All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes,
But Yahweh (the LORD) weighs the spirits.
- 3 Commit your works to Yahweh (the LORD),
And your thoughts will be established.
- 4 Yahweh (the LORD) has made all for Himself,
Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.
- 5 Everyone proud in heart *is* an abomination to Yahweh (the LORD);
Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.*
- 6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And by the fear of Yahweh (the LORD) *one* departs from evil.
- 7 When a man's ways please Yahweh (the LORD),
He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.
- 8 Better *is* a little with righteousness,
Than vast revenues without justice.
- 9 A man's heart plans his way,
But Yahweh (the LORD) directs his steps.
- 10 Divination *is* on the lips of the king;
His mouth must not transgress in judgment.
- 11 Honest weights and scales *are* Yahweh's (the LORD's);
All the weights in the bag *are* His work.
- 12 *It is* an abomination for kings to commit wickedness,
For a throne is established by righteousness.
- 13 Righteous lips *are* the delight of kings,
And they love him who speaks *what is* right.
- 14 As messengers of death *is* the king's wrath,
But a wise man will appease it.

15 In the light of the king's face *is* life,
And his favor *is* like a cloud of the latter rain.

16 How much better to get wisdom than gold!
And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

17 The highway of the upright *is* to depart from evil;
He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

18 Pride *goes* before destruction,
And a haughty spirit before a fall.

19 Better *to be* of a humble spirit with the lowly,
Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good,
And whoever trusts in Yahweh (the LORD), happy *is* he.

21 The wise in heart will be called prudent,
And sweetness of the lips increases learning.

22 Understanding *is* a wellspring of life to him who has it.
But the correction of fools *is* folly.

23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth,
And adds learning to his lips.

24 Pleasant words *are like* a honeycomb,
Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

25 There is a way *that seems* right to a man,
But its end *is* the way of death.

26 The person who labors, labors for himself,
For his *hungry* mouth drives him *on*.

27 An ungodly man digs up evil,
And *it is* on his lips like a burning fire.

28 A perverse man sows strife,
And a whisperer separates the best of friends.

29 A violent man entices his neighbor,
And leads him in a way *that is* not good.

³⁰ He winks his eye to devise perverse things;
He purses his lips *and* brings about evil.

³¹ The silver-haired head *is* a crown of glory,
If it is found in the way of righteousness.

³² *He who is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty,
And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

³³ The lot is cast into the lap,
But its every decision *is* from Yahweh (the LORD).

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Facts Revealed:

- ✧ Short self evident contrasting and straight statements of Solomon requiring no commentary.
- ✧ Contrast between good and evil with the expected reward (end) of each.