

Proverbs 25

Chapter 25

¹ THESE *are* also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

² *It is* the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings *is* to search out a matter.

³ The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings *is* unsearchable.

⁴ Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer.

⁵ Take away the wicked *from* before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.

⁶ Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great *men*:

⁷ For better *it is* that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

⁸ Go not forth hastily to strive, lest *thou know not* what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame.

⁹ Debate thy cause with thy neighbour *himself*; and discover not a secret to another:

¹⁰ Lest he that heareth *it* put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away.

¹¹ A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold in pictures of silver.

¹² *As* an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, *so is* a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

¹³ *As* the cold of snow in the time of harvest, *so is* a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

¹⁴ Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift *is like* clouds and wind without rain.

¹⁵ By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.

¹⁶ Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.

¹⁷ Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and *so* hate thee.

¹⁸ A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour *is* a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

¹⁹ Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble *is like* a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

²⁰ *As* he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, *and as* vinegar upon nitre, *so is* he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

²¹ If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

²² For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the

LORD shall reward thee.

²³ The north wind driveth away rain: so *doth* an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

²⁴ *It is* better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

²⁵ *As* cold waters to a thirsty soul, so *is* good news from a far country.

²⁶ A righteous man falling down before the wicked *is as* a troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring.

²⁷ *It is* not good to eat much honey: so *for men* to search their own glory *is not* glory.

²⁸ He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is* broken down, *and* without walls.