

Proverbs 26

Chapter 26

¹ **A**S snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

² As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.

³ A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

⁴ Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

⁵ Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

⁶ He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, *and* drinketh damage.

⁷ The legs of the lame are not equal: so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools.

⁸ As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so *is* he that giveth honour to a fool.

⁹ *As* a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools.

¹⁰ The great *God* that formed all *things* both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.

¹¹ As a dog returneth to his vomit, *so* a fool returneth to his folly.

¹² Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

¹³ The slothful *man* saith, *There is* a lion in the way; a lion *is* in the streets.

¹⁴ *As* the door turneth upon his hinges, so *doth* the slothful upon his bed.

¹⁵ The slothful hideth his hand in *his* bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

¹⁶ The sluggard *is* wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

¹⁷ He that passeth by, *and* meddleth with strife *belonging* not to him, *is like* one that taketh a dog by the ears.

¹⁸ As a mad *man* who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,

¹⁹ So *is* the man *that* deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport?

²⁰ Where no wood is, *there* the fire goeth out: so where *there is* no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

²¹ *As* coals *are* to burning coals, and wood to fire; so *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.

²² The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

²³ Burning lips and a wicked heart *are like* a potsherd covered with silver dross.

²⁴ He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;

²⁵ When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for *there are* seven abominations in his heart.

²⁶ *Whose* hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the *whole* congregation.

²⁷ Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.

²⁸ A lying tongue hateth *those that are* afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.