

Proverbs 18:1-24 **More Concise Straight and Contrasting Statements**

*The Name of the LORD Is a Strong Tower*

<sup>1</sup> A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire;  
He rages against all wise judgment.

<sup>2</sup> A fool has no delight in understanding,  
But in expressing his own heart.

<sup>3</sup> When the wicked comes, contempt comes also;  
And with dishonor *comes* reproach.

<sup>4</sup> The words of a man's mouth *are* deep waters;  
The wellspring of wisdom *is* a flowing brook.

<sup>5</sup> *It is* not good to show partiality to the wicked,  
*Or* to overthrow the righteous in judgment.

<sup>6</sup> A fool's lips enter into contention,  
And his mouth calls for blows.

<sup>7</sup> A fool's mouth *is* his destruction,  
And his lips *are* the snare of his soul.

<sup>8</sup> The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles,\*  
And they go down into the inmost body.

<sup>9</sup> He who is slothful in his work  
Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

<sup>10</sup> The name of Yahweh (the LORD) *is* a strong tower;  
The righteous run to it and are safe.

<sup>11</sup> The rich man's wealth *is* his strong city,  
And like a high wall in his own esteem.

<sup>12</sup> Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty,  
And before honor *is* humility.

<sup>13</sup> He who answers a matter before he hears *it*,  
It *is* folly and shame to him.

<sup>14</sup> The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness,  
But who can bear a broken spirit?

15 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge,  
And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

16 A man's gift makes room for him,  
And brings him before great men.

17 The first *one* to plead his cause *seems* right,  
Until his neighbor comes and examines him.

18 Casting lots causes contentions to cease,  
And keeps the mighty apart.

19 A brother offended *is harder to win* than a strong city,  
And contentions *are* like the bars of a castle.

20 A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth;  
*From* the produce of his lips he shall be filled.

21 Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue,  
And those who love it will eat its fruit.

22 *He who* finds a wife finds a good *thing*,  
And obtains favor from Yahweh (the LORD).

23 The poor *man* uses entreaties,  
But the rich answers roughly.

24 A man *who has* friends must himself be friendly,\*  
But there is a friend *who* sticks closer than a brother.

NKJV\_

#### 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.