

Proverbs 10:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.

Analysis

The wise in heart will receive commandments, but a prating fool shall fall. The wise eagerly receive authoritative instruction, while the talkative fool who loves hearing himself speak will come to ruin. The contrast between receiving and prating emphasizes listening versus speaking. Those who talk more than listen miss instruction and fall into error. Wise humility receives correction; foolish pride dispenses opinions.

Historical Context

Reflects oral culture where receiving instruction through listening was primary educational method. Fools who talked constantly rather than listening carefully failed to acquire wisdom.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Do you talk more than listen when receiving instruction or correction?

2. How can you cultivate teachable humility that receives rather than debates commandments?

Interlinear Text

חֲכָמִים	לֵב	יִקְחֵם	מִצְוֹת	וְאִם יִלְ	שׁ פֶּתִים	יִלְבָּט:
The wise	in heart	will receive	commandments	fool	but a prating	shall fall
H2450	H3820	H3947	H4687	H191	H8193	H3832

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 12:1 (Parallel theme): Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.

Proverbs 9:9 (Parallel theme): Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

Proverbs 1:5 (Parallel theme): A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

James 3:13 (Parallel theme): Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.