

Proverbs 12

Chapter 12 of 31 · 28 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Proverbs on Wisdom and Folly

- ¹ Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.
- ² A good man obtaineth favour of the LORD: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.
- ³ A man shall not be established by wickedness: but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.
- ⁴ A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.
- ⁵ The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.
- ⁶ The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.
- ⁷ The wicked are overthrown, and are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand.
- ⁸ A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.
- ⁹ He that is despised, and hath a servant, is better than he that honoureth himself, and lacketh bread.
- ¹⁰ A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
- ¹¹ He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

12 The wicked desireth the net of evil men: but the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.

13 The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

16 A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame.

17 He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

19 The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

20 Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

21 There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief.

22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

23 A prudent man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaimeth foolishness.

24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

25 Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad.

26 The righteous is more excellent than his neighbour: but the way of the wicked seduceth them.

- 27** The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.
- 28** In the way of righteousness is life; and in the pathway thereof there is no death.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Blood — דָּם (Dam)

Blood

The Hebrew **dam** (דָּם) means blood—representing life itself. 'The life of the flesh is in the blood' (Leviticus 17:11), and blood was required for atonement, foreshadowing Christ's sacrifice.

Faith — אֱמוּנָה (Emunah)

Faithfulness, trust

The Hebrew **emunah** (אֱמוּנָה) encompasses both faith and faithfulness—trusting God and being trustworthy. It implies steadfast reliability, as in 'The just shall live by his faith' (Habakkuk 2:4).

Lord — אֲדֹנָי / יְהוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

Transgression — פְּשָׁע (Pesha)

Transgression, rebellion

The Hebrew **pesha** (פְּשָׁע) means transgression or rebellion—willful violation of God's law. It implies deliberate revolt against divine authority: 'he was wounded for our transgressions' (Isaiah 53:5).

Truth — אֱמֶת (Emet)

Truth, faithfulness

The Hebrew **emet** (אֱמֶת) means truth or faithfulness—reliability and conformity to reality. God is true (emet), utterly faithful to His word and character.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES

Proverbs 12:1

Parallel theme: Proverbs 8:32; 15:10; 18:1; Psalms 32:9; 92:6; 119:27; Isaiah 1:3. **Love:** Proverbs 8:17; 2 Thessalonians 2:10

Proverbs 12:2

References Lord: Proverbs 8:35. **Good:** Psalms 112:5; Acts 11:24; Romans 5:7. **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 1:31; Psalms 9:15. **Evil:** Proverbs 6:18; Ecclesiastes 8:8

Proverbs 12:3 **Righteousness:** Proverbs 10:25; 12:12. **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 25:33; Psalms 15:5; Ephesians 3:17; Colossians 2:7

Proverbs 12:4 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 14:1; 14:30; 21:9; 21:19; 1 Corinthians 11:7; 11:11

Proverbs 12:5 **Righteousness:** Isaiah 55:7. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 139:23. **Evil:** Jeremiah 4:14

Proverbs 12:6 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 14:3. **Evil:** Jeremiah 5:26

Proverbs 12:7 **Evil:** Job 11:20. **Righteousness:** Proverbs 10:25; 11:21. **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 7:16; 7:26; Esther 9:14

Proverbs 12:8 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 1:26; 3:35; 5:23; Genesis 41:39; Psalms 132:18; Daniel 12:2; Luke 16:8; Acts 12:23; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 2 Corinthians 10:18

Proverbs 12:9 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 13:7; Luke 14:11

Proverbs 12:10 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 25:4

Proverbs 12:11 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 7:7; 9:6; 13:20; 14:4; 14:23; 28:19; Genesis 3:19; Psalms 128:2; Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:8

Proverbs 12:12 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 1:3; 10:9; Isaiah 27:6; 37:31; John 15:5

Proverbs 12:13 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 6:2; 15:2; 21:23; Psalms 64:8; Ecclesiastes 7:18; Daniel 6:24. **Righteousness:** Proverbs 11:8; Psalms 34:19; 2 Peter 2:9. **Sin:** Psalms 5:6

Proverbs 12:14 **Good:** Proverbs 13:2; 15:23. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 63:5; Matthew 16:27; Hebrews 2:2; 11:26

Proverbs 12:15 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 1:5; 3:7; 9:9; 14:12; 14:16; 16:2; 16:25; 19:20; 26:12; Galatians 6:3

Proverbs 12:16

Parallel theme: Proverbs 10:12; 16:22; 17:9; 25:28; 29:11. **Judgment:** James 1:19

Proverbs 12:17 **Witness:** Proverbs 6:19; 14:5; 14:25; 19:5; 19:28; 21:28; 24:28; Matthew 15:19

Proverbs 12:18 **Word:** Proverbs 16:24; 25:18; Psalms 57:4; 64:3; Daniel 11:33. **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 4:22; 13:17; 15:4; 15:7; Psalms 52:2

Proverbs 12:19 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 19:9; Job 20:5

Proverbs 12:20 **Peace:** Zechariah 6:13; Matthew 5:9

Proverbs 12:21

Parallel theme: Proverbs 1:31; 14:14; Habakkuk 2:16; Romans 8:28; 1 Peter 3:13; Revelation 18:6. **Evil:** Psalms 91:10

Proverbs 12:22 **References Lord:** Psalms 5:6. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 9:15; Ezekiel 13:19; 13:22; Revelation 22:15. **Light:** Proverbs 11:1; 11:20; 15:8; Jeremiah 9:24

Proverbs 12:23 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 10:14; 10:19; 11:13; 13:16; 15:2

Proverbs 12:24 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 10:4; 12:27; 13:4; 17:2; 19:15; 22:13; 22:29; Genesis 49:15; 1 Kings 11:28

Proverbs 12:25 **Word:** Proverbs 12:18; 15:23; 16:24; Isaiah 50:4; Zechariah 1:13. **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 15:13; 18:14; 27:9; Psalms 42:11. **Good:** Proverbs 17:22

Proverbs 12:26 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 17:27; 1 John 2:26. **Righteousness:** Proverbs 12:13

Proverbs 12:27 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 13:4

Proverbs 12:28 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 8:35; Deuteronomy 30:15; 3 John 1:11. **Righteousness:** Proverbs 10:16; 11:19; Ezekiel 18:9; Romans 5:21; 1 John 2:29; 3:7

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