

Proverbs 12:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips, but the just shall come out of trouble. Sinful speech entraps the wicked - their own words become snare. Righteous persons escape trouble that wicked words create. This verse warns that verbal sins have consequences - lying, slander, and foolish speech entrap speakers. Conversely, righteous speech enables escape from dangers wicked speech creates.

Historical Context

Reflects covenant community where one's words could bring guilt or provide defense. False words ensnared speakers in contradictions and consequences; truthful words provided deliverance.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How have your words created traps that have snared you?
2. How can you guard your speech to avoid self-imposed troubles?

Interlinear Text

מִשְׁעָן	שָׁפֵטִים	מִזְרָק	שָׁבֵעַ	בָּעֵד	אֵלֶיךָ	מִצְבַּח
by the transgression	of his lips	is snared	The wicked	shall come out	of trouble	
H6588	H8193	H4170	H7451	H3318	H6869	

צַדִּיקָה
but the just
H6662

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 21:23 (Parallel theme): Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

Psalms 64:8 (Parallel theme): So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

Proverbs 11:8 (Righteousness): The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

Proverbs 6:2 (Parallel theme): Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

Daniel 6:24 (Parallel theme): And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

2 Peter 2:9 (Righteousness): The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Ecclesiastes 7:18 (Parallel theme): It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.

Psalms 5:6 (Sin): Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

Psalms 34:19 (Righteousness): Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

Proverbs 15:2 (Parallel theme): The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

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