

Proverbs 12:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

The lip of truth shall be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment. Truth endures permanently; lies are temporary. This verse promises ultimate vindication of truth and exposure of falsehood. While lies may temporarily deceive, truth eventually prevails. The long-view perspective relativizes temporary deception while affirming truth's permanence.

Historical Context

Reflects biblical conviction that God is truth and ensures truth's ultimate triumph. While liars may temporarily succeed, their lies will be exposed and truth established.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does confidence in truth's permanence affect your commitment to honesty?

2. What lies have you told that seem to be working but will eventually be exposed?

Interlinear Text

לְשׁוֹן אֶת יְמִתְּשִׁפְתָּח | תְּכִלָּה לְעֵד יְמִתְּשִׁפְתָּח | אֶת יְמִתְּשִׁפְתָּח לְשׁוֹן

The lip of truth shall be established for ever is but for a moment tongue

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שְׁלֹשֶׁת

but a lying

H8267

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 19:9 (Parallel theme): A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.

Job 20:5 (Parallel theme): That the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment?

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