

Proverbs 12:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

Anxiety burdens the heart, but encouraging words lift it. This psychological insight shows wisdom's pastoral dimension—believers are called to bear one another's burdens through hopeful, grace-filled speech. Good words apply gospel comfort to anxious hearts.

Historical Context

In communities facing war, famine, and constant threats, anxiety was pervasive. Wise encouragers spoke God's promises, lifting others' spirits with truth.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Who in your life needs a good word from you to lift their heavy heart?
2. How can you speak gospel truth that genuinely encourages the anxious?

Interlinear Text

ה	בְּלֵב	אִישׁ	יִשְׁתָּנָה	וְדָבָר	טוֹב
Heaviness	in the heart	of man	maketh it stoop	word	but a good
H1674	H3820	H376	H7812	H1697	H2896
:יִשְׂמְחֶנָּה:					
maketh it glad					
H8055					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 16:24 (Word): Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Proverbs 15:13 (Parallel theme): A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

Proverbs 17:22 (Good): A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Isaiah 50:4 (Word): The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

Proverbs 15:23 (Word): A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

Proverbs 12:18 (Word): There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

Proverbs 27:9 (Parallel theme): Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

Zechariah 1:13 (Word): And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words.

Psalms 42:11 (Parallel theme): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Proverbs 18:14 (Parallel theme): The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

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