

# Proverbs 12:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.

## Analysis

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The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood, but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them. Wicked speech sets ambushes seeking to harm; righteous speech brings deliverance. The military imagery presents speech as weapon - wicked use words to destroy; righteous use words to save. Such speech flows from character - wicked hearts produce deadly words; upright hearts produce life-giving words.

## Historical Context

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Reflects Israel's experience where false accusations and slander could result in execution (think Naboth, 1 Kings 21). Righteous speech provided defense against such deadly schemes.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. Are your words setting traps to harm others or bringing deliverance?
2. How can you use speech redemptively to deliver rather than to destroy?

## Interlinear Text

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דְּבַר י	רָשָׁע יִם	אֶרֶב	דָּם	וּפִי	שֹׁרֵם יִם
The words	of the wicked	are to lie in wait	for blood	but the mouth	of the upright
H1697	H7563	H693	H1818	H6310	H3477
יִצְלֵם:					
shall deliver					
H5337					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 14:3** (Parallel theme): In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.

**Jeremiah 5:26** (Evil): For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men.