

# Proverbs 15:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

## Analysis

The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow. *בֵּית גְּאִים יִסַּח יְהָוָה*, the house of the proud the LORD tears down). God actively destroys (nasach, *נִסַּח*, tear away, pull up, uproot) prideful households. *Veyatsev gevul almanah* (*וַיַּצְבֶּב גְּבוּל אַלְמָנָה*, but He establishes the border of the widow). God establishes (natsav, *נִצָּב*, stand, set up, establish) widow's property boundaries, protecting the vulnerable. This proverb celebrates God's justice—He opposes the proud but defends the weak. James 4:6 quotes this principle: "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

## Historical Context

Ancient societies allowed powerful men to seize widows' land and property. Mosaic Law commanded protecting widows, orphans, and strangers (Exodus 22:22-24, Deuteronomy 27:19). Prophets condemned those who devoured widows' houses (Isaiah 10:1-2, Ezekiel 22:7). This proverb promises divine intervention—God destroys oppressors and protects the vulnerable. Christ condemned religious leaders who devoured widows' houses (Mark 12:40).

## Related Passages

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. In what ways might pride in your life provoke God's opposition and lead toward destruction?
2. How can you actively defend and support the vulnerable (widows, orphans, poor) as God does?
3. What does receiving God's grace as a 'widow' (spiritually vulnerable and dependent) rather than as 'proud' look like?

## Interlinear Text

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גַּבְּרִיל בְּ יְתָנֵל אַיִם אֲיַת חֹרֶב יְהֹוָה בְּ אַלְמָתָה:  
the house of the proud will destroy The LORD but he will establish the border  
H1004 H1343 H5255 H3068 H5324 H1366

אַלְמָתָה:  
of the widow  
H490

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 146:9** (References Lord): The LORD preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.

**Proverbs 12:7** (Parallel theme): The wicked are overthrown, and are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand.

**Proverbs 23:10** (Parallel theme): Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:

**Proverbs 14:11** (Parallel theme): The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish.

**James 1:27** (Parallel theme): Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

**Isaiah 2:12** (References Lord): For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

**Psalms 138:6** (References Lord): Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.

**Daniel 5:20** (Parallel theme): But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: