

# Proverbs 19:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The king's wrath is as the roaring of a lion; but his favour is as dew upon the grass.

## Analysis

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The king's wrath is as the roaring of a lion, but his favor is as dew upon the grass. Royal anger terrifies like a lion's roar; royal favor refreshes like morning dew. The contrasting metaphors emphasize monarchy's power to harm or bless. This wisdom guided ancient courtiers' conduct - avoiding wrath, seeking favor. Applied to divine King, the principle teaches fearing God's judgment while seeking His grace. Christ's kingship makes His favor life-giving and His wrath fearsome.

## Historical Context

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Reflects ancient Near Eastern monarchy's absolute power over subjects. Kings could execute or enrich with a word, making understanding their disposition essential to survival and prosperity.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does understanding God's kingly power affect your pursuit of His favor?
2. What in your life provokes the divine King's wrath versus gains His favor?

## Interlinear Text

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נִהַם	כִּפְּיֵר	זַעַף	מֶלֶךְ	וְכֵט ל	עַל	עַשָּׁב
is as the roaring	of a lion	wrath	The king's	is as dew	H5921	upon the grass
H5099	H3715	H2197	H4428	H2919		H6212
רְצוֹנוֹ:						
but his favour						
H7522						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hosea 14:5** (Parallel theme): I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

**Proverbs 20:2** (Kingdom): The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoso provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul.

**Psalms 133:3** (Parallel theme): As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

**Proverbs 28:15** (Parallel theme): As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.