

Proverbs 19:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth.

Analysis

Zeal without knowledge is dangerous—enthusiasm uninformed by truth leads to sin. Hasty feet (impulsive action) miss the way. This cautions against activist Christianity lacking theological depth. Right knowledge must precede and guide right action, or we err despite good intentions.

Historical Context

Religious zealots in Israel's history often erred through passion untempered by wisdom (Saul's rash vow, 1 Samuel 14:24). Genuine devotion requires both fervent heart and informed mind.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Where does your zeal outpace your knowledge, leading to error?

2. How can you ensure your passion for God is guided by sound biblical understanding?

Interlinear Text

גַּם	בְּלֹא	דָּעַת	נִפְשׁ	לֹא	טוֹב
H1571	H3808	be without knowledge	Also that the soul	H3808	it is not good
		H1847	H5315		H2896
וְ	אֵל	בְּרַגְלֵי	חֹטֵא:		
	and he that hasteth	with his feet	sinneth		
	H213	H7272	H2398		

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 21:5 (Parallel theme): The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

Philippians 1:9 (Parallel theme): And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

Proverbs 29:20 (Parallel theme): Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

Romans 10:2 (Parallel theme): For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

John 16:3 (Parallel theme): And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

Hosea 4:6 (Parallel theme): My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Isaiah 28:16 (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Proverbs 28:20 (Sin): A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

Proverbs 28:22 (Parallel theme): He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

Ecclesiastes 12:9 (Good): And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

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