

Proverbs 21:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

Analysis

The 'proud and haughty scorner' is defined by arrogance—he acts with 'proud wrath.' His name (character/reputation) is 'Scorner' because mockery defines him. This person treats wisdom with contempt, righteous people with derision, and God Himself with disdain. Pride is the root sin from which other sins flow. The scorner's arrogance blinds him to truth and wisdom, ensuring his destruction. Such pride directly opposes God, who resists the proud but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6). The scorner represents the antithesis of the wise person—where wisdom begins with fear of the Lord, scoffing begins with prideful autonomy. Unless humbled by God's grace, the scorner faces certain judgment.

Historical Context

Biblical narrative repeatedly shows God humbling the proud—Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod. Conversely, the humble like Moses and Mary received divine favor.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. Where does pride manifest in your life, leading you to scorn wisdom or despise correction?
2. How can you cultivate genuine humility that receives instruction gladly?

Interlinear Text

יָד	יָהִיר	לֵץ	שֵׁם ו	ע וְשֵׁה	בְּעֵבֶר ת	זָדוֹן:
Proud	and haughty	scorner	is his name	who dealeth	wrath	in proud
H2086	H3093	H3887	H8034	H6213	H5678	H2087

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 1:1 (Parallel theme): Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Proverbs 1:22 (Parallel theme): How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

Proverbs 19:29 (Judgment): Judgments are prepared for scorers, and stripes for the back of fools.