

Proverbs 22:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee.

Analysis

Dwelling alone in the wilderness surpasses living with a contentious, angry wife. The wilderness represents isolation, danger, and hardship—yet even this beats domestic warfare. Constant strife makes a home unbearable. This hyperbole warns men to seek godly wives and warns wives against contentious behavior. The principle applies mutually: either spouse's habitual anger destroys peace. Marriage should be a haven, not a battlefield. Believers must cultivate patience, gentleness, and self-control. The gospel transforms quarrelsome people into peacemakers. Those who have experienced God's patience should show patience toward spouses. Create homes that reflect God's peace, not worldly conflict.

Historical Context

While Israelite men could divorce for various reasons, the ideal was lifelong covenant faithfulness. This proverb doesn't encourage divorce but warns against making marriage unbearable through strife.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. If married, are you creating peace or generating conflict in your home?
2. What specific behaviors need to change to make your home more peaceful?

Interlinear Text

הַיְיָ וְתִּתְּבֹּא בְּיְהוָה מִבְטָח בְּהַזְׁדָּעָת יְהֹוָה וְיֹמָה
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Additional Cross-References

Psalms 62:8 (Faith): Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

Proverbs 3:5 (Faith): Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

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