

Proverbs 24:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Analysis

'By wise counsel thou shalt make thy war'—success in conflict (literal or metaphorical) requires strategic wisdom, not merely courage or weapons. 'In multitude of counsellors there is safety'—seeking advice from many wise people provides security and better decisions. This applies to military strategy and to all significant life decisions. The fool proceeds independently; the wise person seeks counsel. Pride says 'I know best'; wisdom says 'I need input.' Multiple advisers provide varied perspectives, check blindspots, and reduce error. This doesn't mean deciding by committee but gathering wisdom before deciding. Ultimately, believers should counsel with Scripture, wise saints, and through prayer—submitting all plans to God's revealed will.

Historical Context

Ancient kings employed counselors and strategists. David's counselors (like Ahithophel) were valued assets. Rehoboam's rejection of wise counsel led to kingdom division (1 Kings 12).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Do you seek wise counsel before major decisions, or do you proceed independently?
2. Who are the godly counselors you can turn to for wisdom and perspective?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	בְּתַחְבֵּלוֹת	תַּעֲשֶׂה	לְךָ	מִלְחָמָה	וְתִשׁוּעָה
H3588	For by wise counsel	thou shalt make	H0	thy war	there is safety
	H8458	H6213		H4421	H8668
בְּרַב	יוֹעֵץ:				
and in multitude	of counsellors				
H7230	H3289				

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 11:14 (Parallel theme): Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Proverbs 20:18 (Parallel theme): Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.

Proverbs 15:22 (Parallel theme): Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

Luke 14:31 (Parallel theme): Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?