

# Proverbs 25:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory.

## Analysis

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It's not good to eat much honey; seeking one's own glory is not glory. The Hebrew 'devash' (honey) and 'kavod' (glory/honor) warns against excess. Repeating v.16's honey warning, this verse adds parallel: seeking honor destroys it. Self-glorification is self-defeating - those who seek glory lose it; those who seek God's glory receive honor. Humility brings exaltation; pride brings humiliation. This paradox pervades Scripture: lose life to find it, die to live, humble yourself to be exalted.

## Historical Context

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Jesus taught: 'Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted' (Luke 14:11, 18:14). Philippians 2:3 commands: 'Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.' The early church's humility before a glory-seeking Roman culture proved countercultural and attractive. Modern self-promotion culture violates this wisdom pervasively.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does seeking your own glory paradoxically prevent you from receiving it?
2. What self-promotional tendencies need to be replaced with humble service?
3. How can you pursue God's glory while trusting Him to handle your honor or lack thereof?

## Interlinear Text

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ל	אָ	כֹּ	ל	שֶׁ	דְּבַ	וְת	הַרְבֵּ	וְת	לֹא	ט	וּב	וְיִ	קָר
to eat	honey	much							H3808	It is not good		so for men to search	
H398	H1706	H7235								H2896		H2714	
פְּבֹד:	פְּבֹד:												
is not glory	is not glory												
H3519	H3519												

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 27:2** (Parallel theme): Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.

**John 5:44** (Parallel theme): How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?

**Philippians 2:3** (Glory): Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.