

# Proverbs 26:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool.

## Analysis

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Binding a stone in a sling is like giving honor to a fool. The Hebrew 'tseror even' (bind stone) in 'margemah' (sling) creates absurd image. Slingshot requires stone to release; binding it makes sling useless or dangerous (stone might swing back and hit user). Honoring fools is similarly counterproductive - it doesn't help them and may harm those who honored them. Fools can't handle honor properly. Wisdom withholds honor from those who'll misuse it.

## Historical Context

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Ancient warfare used slings effectively (David and Goliath - 1 Samuel 17). Binding stone defeats purpose. Similarly, honoring fools defeats honor's purpose - it should reward and encourage virtue, not vice. Modern culture's celebrity worship often gives honor to fools, producing exactly the predicted harm. Scripture teaches honoring whom honor is due (Romans 13:7), not indiscriminately.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

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

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