

Proverbs 3:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous.

Analysis

The perverse person is abomination to the LORD but the upright enjoy intimacy. The Hebrew 'luwz' (perverse/deviant) describes moral distortion, while 'towebeh' (abomination) indicates covenantal offense. Strong contrast: God abhors the perverse but has 'sod' (intimate counsel/friendship) with the upright. This reveals God's moral nature and relational selectivity - He doesn't offer intimate fellowship to all indiscriminately but reserves closeness for those who walk uprightly.

Historical Context

Ancient covenantal thought distinguished between God's general providence (rain falls on just and unjust) and His special favor toward His people. This verse affirms that distinction - while God is patient toward all, genuine fellowship belongs to the upright. Abraham was called 'friend of God' (James 2:23) for his faithfulness.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What perverse ways in your life might be hindering intimate fellowship with God?
2. How does pursuing uprightness open deeper access to God's presence and counsel?
3. What does it mean experientially to have God's 'secret' or intimate counsel?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	תוֹעֲבָה	יְהוָה	נֶלְוָה	וְאֵת	יֵשׁוּרִים
H3588	is abomination	to the LORD	For the froward	H853	is with the righteous
	H8441	H3068	H3868		H3477

סֵדְרוֹ:
but his secret
H5475

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 25:14 (References Lord): The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

Proverbs 11:20 (References Lord): They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

John 15:15 (References Lord): Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Matthew 13:11 (Parallel theme): He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

Psalms 18:26 (Parallel theme): With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

Job 29:4 (Parallel theme): As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle;

Proverbs 8:13 (References Lord): The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Proverbs 17:15 (Righteousness): He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.

Matthew 11:25 (References Lord): At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

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