

# Proverbs 4:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Put away from thee a foward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

## Analysis

---

Put away from you foward (iqqueshut - perverse, crooked) mouth, and perverse lips put far from you. The command addresses corrupt speech requiring active rejection - not passive avoidance but intentional putting away. Perverse speech includes lying, gossip, flattery, cursing, and all verbal corruption. The verse assumes tongue control requires heart transformation - speech reflects character, so changing speech requires changing heart.

## Historical Context

---

Part of comprehensive instruction on guarding the heart (v.23) and its expressions. Ancient Israelite ethics recognized speech as revealing and shaping character, requiring careful discipline.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

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

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. What patterns of perverse speech do you need to actively 'put away' from your mouth?
2. How does heart transformation through the gospel enable speech transformation mere willpower cannot?

## Interlinear Text

---

שְׁפָתִים שְׁפָתִים וְלִשְׁנָה  
Put away H4480 from thee a froward mouth and perverse lips  
H5493 H6143 H6310 H3891 H8193

מִתְּפַרְתֵּן מִתְּפַרְתֵּן  
put far H4480  
H7368

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Proverbs 8:8** (Parallel theme): All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

**James 1:26** (Parallel theme): If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

**James 1:21** (Parallel theme): Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

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

**Proverbs 6:12** (Parallel theme): A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth.

**1 Peter 2:1** (Parallel theme): Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

**Colossians 3:8** (Parallel theme): But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

**Job 11:14** (Parallel theme): If iniquity be in thine hand, put it far away, and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles.

**Proverbs 17:20** (Parallel theme): He that hath a froward heart findeth no good: and he that hath a perverse tongue falleth into mischief.