

# Proverbs 5:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

## Analysis

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The lamenter continues: 'I obeyed not my teachers nor inclined my ear to my instructors.' This confession acknowledges both disobedience and inattention. The Hebrew 'shama' (hear/obey) and 'natah' (incline/extend) describe active engagement that was refused. Teachers were available, instruction was offered, the student simply wouldn't engage. The tragedy is rejected opportunity - wisdom was accessible but refused.

## Historical Context

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Israel's prophetic history illustrates this repeatedly. Jeremiah 25:3-4 records: 'From the thirteenth year of Josiah...even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened. And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened.' Persistent instruction met persistent refusal.

## Related Passages

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

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

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

### Study Questions

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1. What teachers or instructors in your life deserve greater attention than you're giving?
2. How can you 'incline your ear' more actively to godly counsel rather than passively ignoring it?
3. What prevents you from heeding instruction you know is wise and good?

### Interlinear Text

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וְלֹא	שֶׁ מִעָתָּה	בְּקוֹל	מוֹרְיָי	לְמַלְמֵדַי	לֹא
H3808	And have not obeyed	the voice	of my teachers	to them that instructed	H3808
	H8085	H6963	H3384	H3925	
וְלֹא	הָטָה יְתִי	אָזְנִי:			
	nor inclined	mine ear			
	H5186	H241			

### Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 13:7** (Parallel theme): Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

**1 Thessalonians 4:8** (Parallel theme): He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

**Luke 15:18** (Parallel theme): I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,