

# Proverbs 5:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

## Analysis

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Sin enslaves through accumulated habit—cords binding ever tighter until escape seems impossible. Yet Reformed theology affirms God's sovereign grace can break any bondage. The sinner's self-deception ('his own iniquities shall take the wicked') shows sin's judicial dimension—we are imprisoned by our own choices while needing divine liberation.

## Historical Context

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Imprisonment by cords or ropes was standard practice for captives. Solomon's imagery made viscerally real the spiritual bondage produced by persistent sin and unrepentance.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What habitual sins have created cords of bondage in your life?
2. How have you experienced God's grace breaking the power of entrenched sin?

## Interlinear Text

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וְחַטָּאת	וְשָׁוֹנְתָה	וְאַתָּה	יְלַקְּדָה	וְעַ	בְּרַשְׁתָּה	וְעַ	אַתָּה	יְלַקְּדָה	וְעַ	בְּרַשְׁתָּה	וְחַטָּאת
His own iniquities	shall take		H853		the wicked		himself and he shall be holden				
H5771	H3920				H7563						H8551
וְטָאַת	וְתַּמְגַן										
of his sins	with the cords										
H2403	H2256										

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 9:15** (Parallel theme): The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

**Proverbs 1:18** (Parallel theme): And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.

**Proverbs 11:5** (Evil): The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

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