

Proverbs 6:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

Analysis

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest - this deceptive rationalization minimizes laziness. The Hebrew diminutives ('a little...a little...a little') suggest that sloth justifies itself through incremental indulgence. 'Just five more minutes' repeated becomes chronic delay. The folded hands imagery portrays rest posture when work is required. Small compromises compound into large failures.

Historical Context

Ecclesiastes 10:18 warns: 'By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.' Neglect accumulates imperceptibly until collapse occurs suddenly. Ancient construction required constant maintenance - minor neglect produced major structural failure. Modern life's complexity often obscures this until crisis forces attention.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What 'little' compromises in your life are accumulating toward larger failure?
2. How do you rationalize procrastination or laziness as deserved rest?
3. What disciplines would prevent 'a little' indulgence from becoming destructive patterns?

Interlinear Text

מַעַ טַן	שֵׁ נֹת	מַעַ טַן	תְּנוּמָה וְתֵ	מַעַ טַן	חֲבֵ קַ	יָד יָמַ
Yet a little	sleep	Yet a little	slumber	Yet a little	folding	of the hands
H4592	H8142	H4592	H8572	H4592	H2264	H3027

לְשָׁכָב:
to sleep
H7901

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 6:6 (Parallel theme): Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: