

Proverbs 8:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Analysis

Sin against wisdom is sin against one's own soul, bringing death. This stark contrast with verse 35 presents the ultimate choice: life or death, blessing or curse. Missing wisdom's mark (the Hebrew 'chata' means to miss) leads to self-destruction. All who hate wisdom embrace death, whether consciously or not.

Historical Context

The covenant curse of death for disobedience (Deuteronomy 30:19) underlies this warning. Rejecting wisdom equals rejecting God Himself, incurring eternal consequences.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What areas of your life resist wisdom's correction, and what are the consequences?
2. How does understanding sin's deadly nature motivate repentance and change?

Interlinear Text

וְחַטָּאִי	חַמָּה ס	נַפְשׁוֹ	כָּל	הֵם שֹׂנְאֵי י
But he that sinneth	against me wrongeth	his own soul	H3605	all they that hate
H2398	H2554	H5315		H8130
וְאֶהְבֵּהוּ	מָוֶת:			
me love	death			
H157	H4194			

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 15:32 (Parallel theme): He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Proverbs 1:31 (Parallel theme): Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

Proverbs 20:2 (Sin): The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoso provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul.

1 Corinthians 16:22 (Love): If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

Proverbs 12:1 (Love): Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.

Hebrews 10:29 (Parallel theme): Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Ezekiel 18:31 (Sin): Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Hebrews 2:3 (Parallel theme): How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

Acts 13:46 (Parallel theme): Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Proverbs 21:6 (Parallel theme): The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.