

# Proverbs 9:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

## Analysis

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By wisdom your days will multiply and years added to your life. The Hebrew 'ravah' (multiply/increase) promises longevity from wisdom. This isn't mechanical guarantee but general principle: wisdom tends toward life, folly toward death. Wise living generally produces longer, better life. Foolish living abbreviates and degrades life. While exceptions exist, the pattern holds: wisdom brings life; folly brings death.

## Historical Context

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Deuteronomic covenant promised long life for obedience (Deuteronomy 5:33, 6:2). Proverbs personalizes this - individual wisdom produces individual longevity. Modern medicine validates biblical wisdom: moderate lifestyle, healthy relationships, purposeful living correlate with longevity. Wisdom's life-giving power operates physically, relationally, spiritually. Psalm 91:16 promises: 'With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.'

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How has wisdom (or folly) affected the quality and potentially length of your life?
2. What foolish patterns are abbreviating your life or degrading its quality?
3. How does God's promise of abundant life (John 10:10) connect to wisdom's life-multiplying effects?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּ יָמִים  
H3588 H0 shall be multiplied  
לִיְמָדְתִּים  
H7235 H3117 For by me thy days  
יָמִים יִרְבֶּה  
H3254 H0 shall be increased  
וְשָׁנָתֶךָ  
H8141 H2416 and the years of thy life

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 10:27** (Parallel theme): The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

**Proverbs 3:2** (Parallel theme): For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

**Proverbs 3:16** (Parallel theme): Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

**Deuteronomy 6:2** (Parallel theme): That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.