

PROVERBS

T H E B O O K O F

WORDS FROM
THE WISE



Proverbs 12:1-28

- ¹ To learn, you must love discipline;
it is stupid to hate correction.
- ² The Lord approves of those who are good,
but he condemns those who plan wickedness.
- ³ Wickedness never brings stability,
but the godly have deep roots.

⁴ A worthy wife is a crown for her husband,
but a disgraceful woman is like cancer in his
bones.

⁵ The plans of the godly are just;
the advice of the wicked is treacherous.

⁶ The words of the wicked are like a murderous
ambush, but the words of the godly save lives.

⁷ The wicked die and disappear,
but the family of the godly stands firm.

- 8 A sensible person wins admiration,
but a warped mind is despised.
- 9 Better to be an ordinary person with a servant
than to be self-important but have no food.
- 10 The godly care for their animals,
but the wicked are always cruel.
- 11 A hard worker has plenty of food,
but a person who chases fantasies has no sense.

12 Thieves are jealous of each other's loot,
but the godly are well rooted and bear their own
fruit.

13 The wicked are trapped by their own words,
but the godly escape such trouble.

14 Wise words bring many benefits,
and hard work brings rewards.

15 Fools think their own way is right,
but the wise listen to others.

- 16 A fool is quick-tempered,
but a wise person stays calm when insulted.
- 17 An honest witness tells the truth;
a false witness tells lies.
- 18 Some people make cutting remarks,
but the words of the wise bring healing.
- 19 Truthful words stand the test of time,
but lies are soon exposed.
- 20 Deceit fills hearts that are plotting evil;
joy fills hearts that are planning peace!

- 21 No harm comes to the godly,
but the wicked have their fill of trouble.
- 22 The Lord detests lying lips,
but he delights in those who tell the truth.
- 23 The wise don't make a show of their knowledge,
but fools broadcast their foolishness.
- 24 Work hard and become a leader;
be lazy and become a slave.

- 25 Worry weighs a person down;
an encouraging word cheers a person up.
- 26 The godly give good advice to their friends;
the wicked lead them astray.
- 27 Lazy people don't even cook the game they catch,
but the diligent make use of everything they find.
- 28 The way of the godly leads to life;
that path does not lead to death.

2 Peter 2:4-9

⁴ For God did not spare even the angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, in gloomy pits of darkness, where they are being held until the day of judgment. ⁵ And God did not spare the ancient world — except for Noah and the seven others in his family. Noah warned the world of God's righteous judgment.

⁶ Later, God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and turned them into heaps of ashes. He made them an example of what will happen to ungodly people. ⁷ But God also rescued Lot out of Sodom because he was a righteous man who was sick of the shameful immorality of the wicked people around him. ⁸ Yes, Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day.

⁹ So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment.

When a Christian flirts with wickedness,
their whole family is susceptible

When a pastor flirts with wickedness, the
whole church is susceptible

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1) Lot With Abram

(Proverbs 12:3)

Wickedness never brings stability,
but the godly have deep roots.

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Genesis 12:4-7

⁴ So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. ⁵ He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his wealth — his livestock and all the people he had taken into his household at Haran — and headed for the land of Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan,

⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as Shechem. There he set up camp beside the oak of Moreh. At that time, the area was inhabited by Canaanites. ⁷ Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants."

Abram's relationship with Lot is meant to mirror God's relationship with us

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God is a Father to both the fathered
and the fatherless

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2) Lot Near Sodom (Proverbs 12:26)

The godly give good advice to their friends; the wicked lead them astray.

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Genesis 13:5-13

⁵ Lot, who was traveling with Abram, had also become very wealthy with flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and many tents. ⁶ But the land could not support both Abram and Lot with all their flocks and herds living so close together. ⁷ So disputes broke out between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. (At that time Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land.)

⁸ Finally Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not allow this conflict to come between us or our herdsmen.

After all, we are close relatives! ⁹ The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I’ll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I’ll go to the left.”

¹⁰ Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord or the beautiful land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ Lot chose for himself the whole Jordan Valley to the east of them. He went there with his flocks and servants and parted company with his uncle Abram.

¹² So Abram settled in the land of Canaan,
and Lot moved his tents to a place near Sodom
and settled among the cities of the plain.

¹³ But the people of this area were extremely
wicked and constantly sinned against the Lord.

Moving to Sodom is a choice

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We are all in the habit of
experimenting with our freewill

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Any place away from the safe haven of
Christ is Sodom

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3) Lot In Sodom

(Proverbs 12:7)

The wicked die and disappear,
but the family of the godly stands firm.

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Genesis 19:1-11, 15-16

¹ The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. ² "My lords," he said, "please turn aside to your servant's house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning."

“No,” they answered, “we will spend the night in the square.” ³ But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate. ⁴ Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom — both young and old — surrounded the house.

⁵ They called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.” ⁶ Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him ⁷ and said, “No, my friends. Don’t do this wicked thing. ⁸ Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them.

But don't do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof."

⁹ "Get out of our way," they replied. "This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them."

They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door.

¹⁰ But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. ¹¹ Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

¹⁵ With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished." ¹⁶ When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the Lord was merciful to them.

Lot addresses the Sodomites as friends
Lot thinks he can change the Sodomites
Lot acts no differently than the Sodomites

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4) Lot After Sodom (Proverbs 12:21)

No harm comes to the godly,
but the wicked have their fill of trouble.

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A) Troubled Eyes

(Lot's wife)

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Genesis 19:17

¹⁷ When they were safely out of the city, one of the angels ordered, “Run for your lives! And don’t look back or stop anywhere in the valley! Escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away!”

Genesis 19:23-26

²³ Lot reached the village just as the sun was rising over the horizon. ²⁴ Then the Lord rained down fire and burning sulfur from the sky on Sodom and Gomorrah. ²⁵ He utterly destroyed them, along with the other cities and villages of the plain, wiping out all the people and every bit of vegetation.

²⁶ But Lot's wife looked back as she was following behind him, and she turned into a pillar of salt.

B) Troubled Minds

(Lot and his daughters)

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Genesis 19:30-32

³⁰ Afterward Lot left Zoar because he was afraid of the people there, and he went to live in a cave in the mountains with his two daughters.

³¹ One day the older daughter said to her sister, "There are no men left anywhere in this entire area, so we can't get married like everyone else. And our father will soon be too old to have children."

³² Come, let's get him drunk with wine, and then we will have sex with him. That way we will preserve our family line through our father."

Genesis 19:36-38

³⁶ As a result, both of Lot's daughters became pregnant by their own father. ³⁷ When the older daughter gave birth to a son, she named him Moab. He became the ancestor of the nation now known as the Moabites. ³⁸ When the younger daughter gave birth to a son, she named him Ben-ammi. He became the ancestor of the nation now known as the Ammonites.

You can take Lot out of Sodom,
but you can't take the Sodom out of Lot

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