Proverbs 6

JPS [Online]

Warnings against Foolishness

¹My son, if thou art become surety for thy neighbour, If thou hast struck thy hands for a stranger—

- ²Thou art snared by the words of thy mouth, Thou art caught by the words of thy mouth—
- ³Do this now, my son, and deliver thyself, Seeing thou art come into the hand of thy neighbour; Go, humble thyself, and urge thy neighbour.
- 4Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids.
- ⁵Deliver thyself as a gazelle from the hand [of the hunter], And as a bird from the hand of the fowler.
- ⁶Go to the ant, thou sluggard; Consider her ways, and be wise;
- Which having no chief, Overseer, or ruler,
- ⁸Provideth her bread in the summer, And gatherest her food in the harvest.
- 9How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?
- 10Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep'—
- ¹¹So shall thy poverty come as a runner, And thy want as an armed man.
- 12A base person, a man of iniquity, Is he that walketh with a froward mouth;
- 13That winketh with his eyes, that scrapeth with his feet, That pointeth with his fingers;
- 14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth evil continually; He soweth discord.
- 15Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; On a sudden shall he be broken, and that without remedy.
- ¹⁶There are six things which the LORD hateth, Yea, seven which are an abomination unto Him:
- 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood;
- 18A heart that deviseth wicked thoughts, Feet that are swift in running to evil;
- ¹⁹A false witness that breatheth out lies, And he that soweth discord among brethren.

Warnings against Adultery

- ²⁰My son, keep the commandment of thy father, And forsake not the teaching of thy mother;
- ²¹Bind them continually upon thy heart, Tie them about thy neck.
- ²²When thou walkest, it shall lead thee, When thou liest down, it shall watch over thee; And when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.
- ²³For the commandment is a lamp, and the teaching is light, And reproofs of instruction are the way of life;

- ²⁴To keep thee from the evil woman, From the smoothness of the alien tongue.
- ²⁵Lust not after her beauty in thy heart; Neither let her captivate thee with her eyelids.
- ²⁶For on account of a harlot a man is brought to a loaf of bread, But the adulteress hunteth for the precious life.
- ²⁷Can a man take fire in his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?
- ²⁸Or can one walk upon hot coals, And his feet not be scorched?
- ²⁹So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; Whosoever toucheth her shall not go unpunished.
- 30 Men do not despise a thief, if he steal To satisfy his soul when he is hungry;
- ³¹But if he be found, he must restore sevenfold, He must give all the substance of his house.
- ³²He that committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding; He doeth it that would destroy his own soul.
- 33 Wounds and dishonour shall he get, And his reproach shall not be wiped away.
- ³⁴For jealousy is the rage of a man, And he will not spare in the day of vengeance.
- 35He will not regard any ransom; Neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.