Proverbs 18

JPS [Online]

The Selfishness of the Unfriendly

¹He that separateth himself seeketh his own desire, And snarlest against all sound wisdom.

²A fool hath no delight in understanding, But only that his heart may lay itself bare.

³When the wicked cometh, there cometh also contempt, And with ignominy reproach.

⁴The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters; A flowing brook, a fountain of wisdom.

⁵It is not good to respect the person of the wicked, So as to turn aside the righteous in judgment.

⁶A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calleth for strokes.

⁷A fool's mouth is his ruin, And his lips are the snare of his soul.

⁸The words of a whisperer are as dainty morsels, And they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

⁹Even one that is slack in his work Is brother to him that is a destroyer.

¹⁰The name of the LORD is a strong tower: The righteous runneth into it, and is set up on high.

¹¹The rich man's wealth is his strong city, And as a high wall in his own conceit.

¹²Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, And before honour goeth humility.

¹³He that giveth answer before he heareth, It is folly and confusion unto him.

¹⁴The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; But a broken spirit who can bear?

¹⁵The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; And the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

¹⁶A man's gift maketh room for him, And bringeth him before great men.

¹⁷He that pleadeth his cause first seemeth just; But his neighbour cometh and searcheth him out.

¹⁸The lot causeth strife to cease, And parteth asunder the contentious.

¹⁹A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city; And their contentions are like the bars of a castle.

²⁰A man's belly shall be filled with the fruit of his mouth; With the increase of his lips shall he be satisfied.

²¹Death and life are in the power of the tongue; And they that indulge it shall eat the fruit thereof.

²²Whoso findeth a wife findeth a great good, And obtaineth favour of the LORD.

²³The poor useth entreaties; But the rich answereth impudently.

²⁴There are friends that one hath to his own hurt; But there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.