

The Book of Proverbs

Chapter 20

Advice on How to Live

Proverbs 20:1

(Pro 20:1 ISV*) ¶ Wine causes mocking, and beer causes fights;
everyone led astray by them lacks wisdom.

(Pro 20:1 KJV+) Wine^{H3196} is a mocker,^{H3887} strong drink^{H7941} is raging;^{H1993}
and whosoever^{H3605} is deceived^{H7686} thereby is not^{H3808} wise.^{H2449}

(Pro 20:1 NASB) Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,
And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.

(Pro 20:1 NIV) Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler;
whoever is led astray by them is not wise.

Proverbs 20:1

(Pro 20:1 NASB) Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,
And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.

Wine mocks its victims and strong drink makes them wild and boisterous.

Whosoever submits to its sense-destroying powers is senseless.

Eight examples of intoxication:

1. Noah (**Gen 9:20-21**)
2. Lot (**Gen 19:30-38**)
3. Nabal (**1 Sam 25:36**)
4. Elah (**1 Kings 16:8-10**)
5. Benhadad (**1 Kings 20:16-21**)
6. Ephraim (**Isa 28:7**)
7. Belshazzar (**Dan 5**)
8. Nineveh (**Nah 1:10**)

Strong drink was then made of grapes, dates, barley, and honey.

Proverbs 20:2

(Pro 20:2 ISV*) ¶ A king's anger is like a lion's roar;
anyone who angers him forfeits his life.

(Pro 20:2 KJV+) The fear^{H367} of a king^{H4428} is as the roaring^{H5099} of a lion:^{H3715}
whoso provoketh him to anger^{H5674} sinneth^{H2398}
against his own soul.^{H5315}

(Pro 20:2 NASB) The terror of a king is like the growling of a lion;

He who provokes him to anger forfeits his own life.

(Pro 20:2 NIV) A king's wrath is like the roar of a lion;
he who angers him forfeits his life.

The wrath of a king is to be feared like the roaring of a lion,
and whoever provokes him does it to his own hurt.

See notes, **Prov 19:12**.

Proverbs 20:3

(Pro 20:3 ISV*) ¶ Avoiding strife brings a man honor,
but every fool is quarrelsome.

(Pro 20:3 KJV+) *It is an honour*^{H3519} *for a man*^{H376} *to cease*^{H7674} *from strife*^{H4480 H7379}
but every^{H3605} fool^{H191} will be meddling.^{H1566}

(Pro 20:3 NASB) Keeping away from strife is an honor
for a man,
But any fool will quarrel.

(Pro 20:3 NIV) It is to a man's honor to avoid strife,
but every fool is quick to quarrel.

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Proverbs 20:3

(Pro 20:3 NASB) Keeping away from strife is an honor for a
man,
But any fool will quarrel.

A man of honor will cease from strife, but a fool will gladly begin it.

[meddling] Hebrew: **galat** (OT:1566), breaking forth.

See notes on *Prov 17:14 Prov 18:1 Prov 19:11*.

Three examples of ceasing from strife:

1. Abraham (*Gen 13:7-9*)
2. Isaac (*Gen 26:12-30*)
3. David (*1 Sam 25:32-34*)

[every fool] Hebrew: **°eviyl** (OT:191) means lax or careless
habit of mind and body; to be perverse, silly, and a fool.

Used 19 times in Proverbs (*Prov 1:7; 7:22; 10:8,10,14,21;
11:29; 12:15-16; 14:3,9; 15:5; 16:22; 17:28; 20:3; 24:7;
27:3,22; 29:9*).

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Proverbs 20:4

(Pro 20:4 ISV*) ¶ A lazy person doesn't plow in the proper [The
Heb. lacks *proper*] season;

he looks for a harvest, but there is nothing.

(Pro 20:4 KJV+) The sluggard^{H6102} will not^{H3808} plow^{H2790} by
reason of the cold;^{H4480 H2779}
therefore shall he beg^{H7592} in harvest,^{H7105} and *have*
nothing.^{H369}

(Pro 20:4 NASB) The sluggard does not plow after the autumn,
So he begs during the harvest and has nothing.

(Pro 20:4 NIV) A sluggard does not plow in season;
so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.

The slothful man, under the excuse of unfavorable weather,
neglects cultivating his land till the proper time has past, so he
has to beg in time of harvest.

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Proverbs 20:5

(Pro 20:5 ISV*) ¶ The intentions of a person's heart are deep
waters,
but a discerning person reveals them.

(Pro 20:5 KJV+) Counsel^{H6098} in the heart^{H3820} of man^{H376} is
like deep^{H6013} water;^{H4325}
but a man^{H376} of understanding^{H8394} will draw it out.^{H1802}

(Pro 20:5 NASB) A plan in the heart of a man is *like* deep
water,
But a man of understanding draws it out.

(Pro 20:5 NIV) The purposes of a man's heart are deep
waters,
but a man of understanding draws them out.

The innermost purpose of a man's heart may be difficult to
understand, but a wise man will draw it out like water from a
deep well.

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Proverbs 20:6

(Pro 20:6 ISV*) ¶ Many claim “I’m a loyal person!” [Lit. *claim to be people of gracious love*]

but who can find someone who truly is?

(Pro 20:6 KJV+) Most^{H7230} men^{H120} will proclaim^{H7121} every one^{H376} his own goodness:^{H2617}
but a faithful^{H529} man^{H376} who^{H4310} can find?^{H4672}

(Pro 20:6 NASB) Many a man proclaims his own loyalty,
But who can find a trustworthy man?

(Pro 20:6 NIV) Many a man claims to have unfailing love,
but a faithful man who can find?

Proverbs 20:6

(Pro 20:6 NASB) Many a man proclaims his own loyalty,
But who can find a trustworthy man?

Five examples proclaiming own goodness:

1. Absalom (**2 Sam 15:4**)
2. Jehu (**2 Kings 10:16,31**)
3. The scribes (**Matt 6:2; 23:5**)
4. The rich young ruler (**Matt 19:20-22**)
5. The Pharisee (**Luke 18:9-14**)

[but a faithful man who can find?] Question 15. Next,
Prov 20:9.

Proverbs 20:7

(Pro 20:7 ISV*) ¶ The righteous person lives a life of integrity;

happy are his children who follow him!

(Pro 20:7 KJV+) The just^{H6662} man walketh^{H1980} in his integrity:^{H8537}
his children^{H1121} are blessed^{H835} after^{H310} him.

(Pro 20:7 NASB) A righteous man who walks in his integrity--
How blessed are his sons after him.

(Pro 20:7 NIV) The righteous man leads a blameless life;
blessed are his children after him.

A righteous man will be rewarded having his children
blessed by his integrity after his death.

Proverbs 20:8

(Pro 20:8 ISV*) ¶ A king sits on a throne of justice,
sifting out all sorts of evil with his glance.

(Pro 20:8 KJV+) A king^{H4428} that sitteth^{H3427} in^{H5921} the throne^{H3678} of judgment^{H1779}
scattereth away^{H2219} all^{H3605} evil^{H7451} with his eyes.^{H5869}

(Pro 20:8 NASB) A king who sits on the throne of justice
Disperses all evil with his eyes.

(Pro 20:8 NIV) When a king sits on his throne to judge,
he winnows out all evil with his eyes.

A king who sits to judge men and execute the laws of God
will strike terror in the hearts of evil men who know that
they will receive justice for their deeds.

Proverbs 20:9

(Pro 20:9 ISV*) ¶ Who can say, “My intentions are pure; I am clean from any sin?”

(Pro 20:9 KJV+) Who^{H4310} can say,^{H559} I have made my heart^{H3820} clean,^{H2135}
I am pure^{H2891} from my sin?^{H4480 H2403}

(Pro 20:9 NASB) Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart,
I am pure from my sin"?

(Pro 20:9 NIV) Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin"?

(Pro 20:9 RSV) Who can say, "I have made my heart clean;
I am pure from my sin"?

Proverbs 20:9

(Pro 20:9 NASB) Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart, I am pure from my sin"?

Question 16. Next, *Prov 20:24*.

That is a question that no one can answer, but anyone who asks it honestly is on his way to finding the Savior.

No man can ever say that he has made his own heart clean or that he has purified himself of his sins.

No man can say that he is pure unless he is cleansed by the blood of Christ.

After that he can say that his heart is clean and that he is purified from sin (*Mat 5:8; Jhn 15:3; Ro 6; 8:1-13; 2Co 5:17-18; Ga 5:16-26; Ep 4:24; Tit 2:11-14; Hb 1:3; 9:9-28; 10:1-18; 12:14; 1 Ptr 1:18-23; 2 Ptr 1:1-10; 1 Jhn 1:7,9; 2:29; 3:5-10; 5:1-4,18; Rv 1:5*).

Even O.T. saints were cleansed, purified from sin, and fully redeemed from sin by faith in the coming Redeemer (*Ps 32:1-5; 51:1-12; Isa 1:18; 6:7; Rom 4*).

Proverbs 20:10

(Pro 20:10 ISV*) ¶ False ^[Or Diverse] weights and measures—the LORD surely detests both of them.

(Pro 20:10 KJV+) Divers weights,^{H68 H68} and divers measures,^{H374 H374}
both^{H8147} of them are alike^{H1571} abomination^{H8441} to the LORD.^{H3068}

(Pro 20:10 NASB) Differing weights and differing measures,
Both of them are abominable to the LORD.

(Pro 20:10 NIV) Differing weights and differing measures — the LORD detests them both.

Proverbs 20:10

(Pro 20:10 NASB) Differing weights and differing measures, Both of them are abominable to the LORD.

Literally, a stone and a stone, an ephah and an ephah.

The first was the standard weight and measure, and the other was less.

Unscrupulous men used the first to buy and the other to sell.

This was an abomination to God who wants standard weights and measures for all transactions (*Prov 20:10,23; 11:1; 16:11; Deut 25:13*).

[abomination to the LORD].

[to the LORD] Things highly esteemed by men are often an abomination to God (*Luke 16:15*).

Proverbs 20:11

(Pro 20:11 ISV*) ¶ Even a child is known by his actions,
whether his deeds are pure and right.

(Pro 20:11 KJV+) Even^{H1571} a child^{H5288} is known^{H5234} by
his doings,^{H4611}
whether^{H518} his work^{H6467} be pure,^{H2134} and
whether^{H518} *it be right.*^{H3477}

(Pro 20:11 NASB) It is by his deeds that a lad
distinguishes himself
If his conduct is pure and right.

(Pro 20:11 NIV) Even a child is known by his actions,
by whether his conduct is pure and right.

The deeds of a child reveal his character and predict what
his future will be if he is not properly trained and
transformed by God's power.

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Proverbs 20:13

(Pro 20:13 ISV*) ¶ Do not love sleep or you'll become poor,
keep your eyes open and you'll have plenty of food.

(Pro 20:13 KJV+) Love^{H157} not^{H408} sleep,^{H8142} lest^{H6435} thou
come to poverty;^{H3423}
open^{H6491} thine eyes,^{H5869} *and* thou shalt be
satisfied^{H7646} with bread.^{H3899}

(Pro 20:13 NASB) Do not love sleep, or you will become
poor;
Open your eyes, *and* you will be satisfied with food.

(Pro 20:13 NIV) Do not love sleep or you will grow poor;
stay awake and you will have food to spare.

Don't love sleep more than you should, lest you become lazy
and come to poverty.

Be alert and diligent in business and you will prosper.

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Proverbs 20:12

(Pro 20:12 ISV*) ¶ The ear that hears and the eye that
sees—
the LORD surely made them both.

(Pro 20:12 KJV+) The hearing^{H8085} ear,^{H241} and the
seeing^{H7200} eye,^{H5869}
the LORD^{H3068} hath made^{H6213} even^{H1571} both^{H8147} of
them.

(Pro 20:12 NASB) The hearing ear and the seeing eye,
The LORD has made both of them.

(Pro 20:12 NIV) Ears that hear and eyes that see
— the LORD has made them both.

God has made all things for Himself and they should be
used for His glory (*Col 1:15-18; Rev 4:11*).

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Proverbs 20:14

(Pro 20:14 ISV*) ¶ "This is bad, bad," says whoever is
buying—
but then he brags as he walks away after the sale. <sup>[The Heb.
lacks *after the sale*]</sup>

(Pro 20:14 KJV+) *It is naught,*^{H7451} *it is naught,*^{H7451} saith^{H559}
the buyer;^{H7069}
but when he is gone his way,^{H235} then^{H227} he
boasteth.^{H1984}

(Pro 20:14 NASB) "Bad, bad," says the buyer,
But when he goes his way, then he boasts.

(Pro 20:14 NIV) "It's no good, it's no good!" says the buyer;
then off he goes and boasts about his purchase.

People belittle something they want to buy, but boast of their
bargain afterward.

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Proverbs 20:15

(Pro 20:15 ISV*) ¶ There is an abundance of gold and precious stones,
but lips of knowledge are a rare jewel.

(Pro 20:15 KJV+) There is^{H3426} gold,^{H2091} and a multitude^{H7230} of rubies:^{H6443}
but the lips^{H8193} of knowledge^{H1847} are a precious^{H3366} jewel.^{H3627}

(Pro 20:15 NASB) There is gold, and an abundance of jewels;
But the lips of knowledge are a more precious thing.

(Pro 20:15 NIV) Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.

Knowledge is more valuable than gold and rubies (*Prov 3:14-15; 8:11*).

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Proverbs 20:16

(Pro 20:16 NASB) Take his garment when he becomes surety for a stranger;
And for foreigners, hold him in pledge.

Take sufficient security from strangers to ensure they meet their obligations, and take a pledge from him who has become security for a foreign woman (*Prov 27:13*).

[pledge] H2254 **châbal** khaw-bal'

A primitive root; to wind tightly (as a rope), that is, to bind; specifically by a pledge;

figuratively to pervert, destroy; also to writhe in pain (especially of parturition)

[strange woman] Hebrew: **nokriy** (OT:5237), foreign woman.

See *Prov 2:16; Prov 5:3*.

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Proverbs 20:16

(Pro 20:16 ISV*) ¶ Take the garment of anyone who puts up collateral for a stranger;
hold it in pledge if he does it for an unfamiliar woman.

(Pro 20:16 KJV+) Take^{H3947} his garment^{H899} that^{H3588} is surety^{H6148} for a stranger:^{H2114}
and take a pledge^{H2254} of him for^{H1157} a strange woman.^{H5237}

(Pro 20:16 NASB) Take his garment when he becomes surety for a stranger;
And for foreigners, hold him in pledge.

(Pro 20:16 NIV) Take the garment of one who puts up security for a stranger;
hold it in pledge if he does it for a wayward woman.

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Proverbs 20:17

(Pro 20:17 ISV*) ¶ Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, but later his mouth will be full of gravel.

(Pro 20:17 KJV+) Bread^{H3899} of deceit^{H8267} is sweet^{H6156} to a man;^{H376}
but afterwards^{H310} his mouth^{H6310} shall be filled^{H4390} with gravel.^{H2687}

(Pro 20:17 NASB) Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man,
But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

(Pro 20:17 NIV) Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man, but he ends up with a mouth full of gravel.

Employment, pleasure, and possessions acquired by deceit may be sweet at the time, but afterward they become bitter disappointments.

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Proverbs 20:18

**(Pro 20:18 ISV*) ¶ Make plans by seeking advice;
make war by obtaining guidance.**

**(Pro 20:18 KJV+) Every purpose^{H4284} is established^{H3559}
by counsel:^{H6098}
and with good advice^{H8458} make^{H6213} war.^{H4421}**

**(Pro 20:18 NASB) Prepare plans by consultation,
And make war by wise guidance.**

**(Pro 20:18 NIV) Make plans by seeking advice;
if you wage war, obtain guidance.**

Proverbs 20:18

**(Pro 20:18 NASB) Prepare plans by consultation,
And make war by wise guidance.**

Every plan should be made by counsel with competent men, and no war fought without sound advice.

Most wars have been started through malice or for the personal gain of leaders who haven't had good counsel.

Many could have been avoided, and only a few have served the purpose of God and His plan.

Proverbs 20:19

**(Pro 20:19 ISV*) ¶ Whoever spreads gossip betrays
confidences;
so don't get involved with someone who talks too much.**

**(Pro 20:19 KJV+) He that goeth about^{H1980} as a talebearer^{H7400}
revealeth^{H1540} secrets:^{H5475}
therefore meddle^{H6148} not^{H3808} with him that flattereth^{H6601}
with his lips.^{H8193}**

**(Pro 20:19 NASB) He who goes about as a slanderer reveals
secrets,**

Therefore do not associate with a gossip.

**(Pro 20:19 NIV) A gossip betrays a confidence;
so avoid a man who talks too much.**

Have no fellowship with the talebearer — one who reveals secrets and speaks flattering words.

Proverbs 20:20

**(Pro 20:20 ISV*) ¶ Whoever curses his father or mother,
his lamp will be extinguished in the deepest
darkness.**

**(Pro 20:20 KJV+) Whoso curseth^{H7043} his father^{H1} or his
mother,^{H517}
his lamp^{H5216} shall be put out^{H1846} in obscure^{H380}
darkness.^{H2822}**

**(Pro 20:20 NASB) He who curses his father or his
mother,**

His lamp will go out in time of darkness.

**(Pro 20:20 NIV) If a man curses his father or mother,
his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness.**

Proverbs 20:20

(Pro 20:20 NASB) He who curses his father or his mother,
His lamp will go out in time of darkness.

Three unailing laws:

1. He who curses father and mother shall be put to death and leave no posterity (**Ex 21:17; Lev 20:9**)
2. Inheritances hastily gotten generally lead to idleness, pride, and sin (**Prov 20:21**)
3. To pay back evil for evil will not be blessed by the Lord; but those who trust God to reward evil in His own time shall be saved (**Prov 20:22**)

Proverbs 20:22

(Pro 20:22 ISV*) ¶ Don't say "I'll avenge that wrong!"
Wait on the LORD and he will deliver you.

(Pro 20:22 KJV+) Say^{H559} not^{H408} thou, I will recompense^{H7999} evil;^{H7451}
but wait^{H6960} on the LORD,^{H3068} and he shall save^{H3467} thee.

(Pro 20:22 NASB) Do not say, "I will repay evil";
Wait for the LORD, and He will save you.

(Pro 20:22 NIV) Do not say, "I'll pay you back for this wrong!"
Wait for the LORD, and he will deliver you.

Proverbs 20:21

(Pro 20:21 ISV*) ¶ An inheritance quickly obtained at the beginning
will not be blessed at the end.

(Pro 20:21 KJV+) An inheritance^{H5159} *may be gotten* hastily^{H926} at the beginning;^{H7223} but the end^{H319} thereof shall not^{H3808} be blessed.^{H1288}

(Pro 20:21 NASB) An inheritance gained hurriedly at the beginning
Will not be blessed in the end.

(Pro 20:21 NIV) An inheritance quickly gained at the beginning
will not be blessed at the end.

Proverbs 20:23

(Pro 20:23 ISV*) 23) ¶ The LORD detests differing weights,
and dishonest scales are not good.

(Pro 20:23 KJV+) Divers weights^{H68} ^{H68} are an abomination^{H8441} unto the LORD;^{H3068}
and a false^{H4820} balance^{H3976} *is not*^{H3808} good.^{H2896}

(Pro 20:23 NASB) Differing weights are an abomination to the LORD,
And a false scale is not good.

(Pro 20:23 NIV) The LORD detests differing weights,
and dishonest scales do not please him.

[Divers weights] See note, **Prov 20:10**.
[abominations unto the LORD]

Proverbs 20:24

(Pro 20:24 ISV*) ¶ A man's steps are directed by the LORD;
how then can anyone understand his own way?

(Pro 20:24 KJV+) Man's^{H1397} goings^{H4703} are of the LORD;^{H4480 H3068}
how^{H4100} can a man^{H120} then understand^{H995} his own way?^{H1870}

(Pro 20:24 NASB) Man's steps are *ordained* by the LORD,
How then can man understand his way?

(Pro 20:24 NIV) A man's steps are directed by the LORD.
How then can anyone understand his own way?

Proverbs 20:24

(Pro 20:24 NASB) Man's steps are *ordained* by the LORD,
How then can man understand his way?

God's providence is over all His creation, governing all of it to His desired end.

Man carries out His plans without knowing why.

How then can he know his own way?

[how can a man then understand his own way?]
Question 17. Next, **Prov 21:27**.

Proverbs 20:25

(Pro 20:25 ISV*) ¶ It is a trap for a person to declare quickly, "This is sacred,"
and only later to have second thoughts about the vows.

(Pro 20:25 KJV+) *It is a snare*^{H4170} to the man^{H120} *who devoureth*^{H3216} *that which is holy*,^{H6944}
and after^{H310} vows^{H5088} to make enquiry.^{H1239}

(Pro 20:25 NASB) It is a trap for a man to say rashly, "It is holy!"

And after the vows to make inquiry.

(Pro 20:25 NIV) It is a trap for a man to dedicate something rashly

and only later to consider his vows.

It's a snare for a man to selfishly use that which belongs to God, or to make rash vows without knowing whether they are right or wrong.

Proverbs 20:26

(Pro 20:26 ISV*) ¶ A wise king sifts the wicked,
crushing them with the threshing wheel.

(Pro 20:26 KJV+) A wise^{H2450} king^{H4428} scattereth^{H2219} the wicked,^{H7563}
and bringeth^{H7725} the wheel^{H212} over^{H5921} them.

(Pro 20:26 NASB) A wise king winnows the wicked,
And drives the *threshing* wheel over them.

(Pro 20:26 NIV) A wise king winnows out the wicked;
he drives the threshing wheel over them.

Proverbs 20:26

**(Pro 20:26 NASB) A wise king winnows the wicked,
And drives the *threshing* wheel over them.**

In Palestine grain was threshed by the oxen walking among the sheaves and bringing a rough-shod wheel over them.

The chaff was scattered by the winds and the wheat gathered into the garner.

Likewise, the wise king separated the wicked from the good so his kingdom could continue in righteousness.

Proverbs 20:27

**(Pro 20:27 ISV*) ¶ A person's spirit is the lamp of the LORD;
it searches throughout one's innermost being.**

**(Pro 20:27 KJV+) The spirit^{H5397} of man^{H120} is the candle^{H5216} of the LORD,^{H3068}
searching^{H2664} all^{H3605} the inward parts^{H2315} of the belly.^{H990}**

**(Pro 20:27 NASB) The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD,
Searching all the innermost parts of his being.**

**(Pro 20:27 NIV) The lamp of the LORD searches the spirit of a man;
it searches out his inmost being.**

**(Pro 20:27 RSV) The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord,
searching all his innermost parts.**

Proverbs 20:27

**(Pro 20:27 NASB) The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD,
Searching all the innermost parts of his being.**

Our essential nature is to be indwelt by the Holy Spirit. That is what God made our spirits for.

He is the light. We are the lamp.

When the lamp of the spirit holds the light of the Holy Spirit he searches the innermost part of a life and we begin to understand ourselves for the first time.

God uses the spirit of man as a light to search out the inward parts and determine what is good or bad.

The spirit is that which knows: the mind, the will, and the conscience.

It is by searching man that God brings to light what is in him
(Ps 139:23; Jer 17:10; Rom 8:27; 1 Cor 2:10; Rev 2:23).

Proverbs 20:28

**(Pro 20:28 ISV*) ¶ Gracious love and truth preserve a king;
through love his throne is made secure.**

**(Pro 20:28 KJV+) Mercy^{H2617} and truth^{H571} preserve^{H5341} the king;^{H4428}
and his throne^{H3678} is upholden^{H5582} by mercy.^{H2617}**

**(Pro 20:28 NASB) Loyalty and truth preserve the king,
And he upholds his throne by righteousness.**

**(Pro 20:28 NIV) Love and faithfulness keep a king safe;
through love his throne is made secure.**

When a king is merciful and truthful his subjects have confidence in him and they uphold him as their leader.

Proverbs 20:29

**(Pro 20:29 ISV*) ¶ The glory of young men is their strength;
and the splendor of elders is their gray hair.**

**(Pro 20:29 KJV+) The glory^{H8597} of young men^{H970} is their strength:^{H3581}
and the beauty^{H1926} of old men^{H2205} is the gray head.^{H7872}**

**(Pro 20:29 NASB) The glory of young men is their strength,
And the honor of old men is their gray hair.**

**(Pro 20:29 NIV) The glory of young men is their strength,
gray hair the splendor of the old.**

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Proverbs 20:29

**(Pro 20:29 NASB) The glory of young men is their strength,
And the honor of old men is their gray hair.**

The glory of young men is their strength, so they delight in publically displaying their athletic abilities.

Very few seek to excel in knowledge and wisdom.

The beauty of old men is the grey head.

They no longer make a public show of strength, but excel in wisdom and counsel.

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Proverbs 20:30

**(Pro 20:30 ISV*) ¶ Blows that wound clean away evil;
such beatings cleanse ^[The Heb. lacks *cleanse*] the innermost being.**

**(Pro 20:30 KJV+) The blueness^{H2250} of a wound^{H6482} cleanseth away^{H8562} evil:^{H7451}
so *do* stripes^{H4347} the inward parts^{H2315} of the belly.^{H990}**

**(Pro 20:30 NASB) Stripes that wound scour away evil,
And strokes *reach* the innermost parts.**

**(Pro 20:30 NIV) Blows and wounds cleanse away evil,
and beatings purge the inmost being.**

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Proverbs 20:30

**(Pro 20:30 NASB) Stripes that wound scour away evil,
And strokes *reach* the innermost parts.**

As the closing of a wound produces healing as the dead flesh and germs are purged, so stripes cleanse the inward moral evil and vice from the heart of a child.

When children are thus chastened and corrected their conscience and life are purged of further disobedience.

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