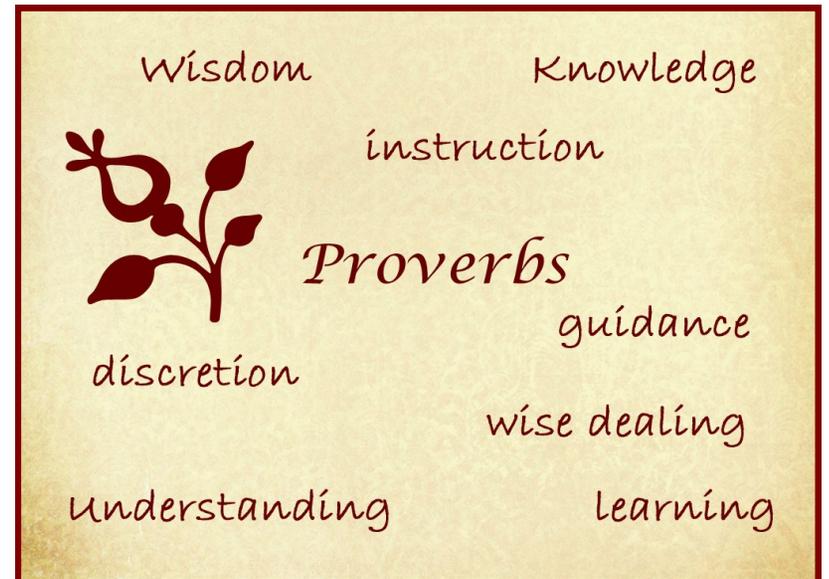


Proverbs

(Those who choose wisdom and follow God will be blessed in numerous ways.)



Proverbs 7

*Say to Wisdom, "You are my sister!"
call Understanding, "Friend!"*

Proverbs 7:4

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Knowledge is an accumulation of raw facts, but wisdom is the ability to see people, events, and situations as God sees them. In the Book of Proverbs, the mind of God is revealed in matters high and lofty and in common, ordinary, everyday situations as well. It appears that no topic escapes attention. Summarizing the Book of Proverbs is difficult for unlike many other books of Scripture, there is no particular plot or storyline found in its pages; nor are there any principal characters found in the book. It is wisdom that takes center stage— a grand, divine wisdom that transcends the whole of history, peoples and cultures. The theme of wisdom and its necessity in our lives finds its fulfillment in Christ. In Proverbs we are exhorted that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Both the Latin and English translation of each line of the verse will be outlined, along with a brief Catholic explanation of that line of the verse.

Proverbs 7

{7:1} Fili mi, custodi sermones meos, et præcepta mea reconde tibi.

{7:1} My son, guard my words and conceal my precepts within you.

¹ My child, keep my words, and treasure my precepts,

{7:2} Fili, serva mandata mea, et vives: et legem meam quasi pupillam oculi tui:

{7:2} Son, preserve my commandments, and you shall live. And keep my law as the pupil of your eye.

² keep my precepts and you will live, keep my teaching as the apple of your eye.

{7:3} liga eam in digitis tuis, scribe illam in tabulis cordis tui.

{7:3} Bind it with your fingers; write it on the tablets of your heart.

³ Bind these to your fingers, write them on the tablet of your heart.

{7:4} Dic sapientiæ, soror mea es: et prudentiam voca amicam tuam,

{7:4} Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call prudence your friend.

⁴ Say to Wisdom, 'You are my sister!' Call Understanding your relation,

{7:25} Ne abstrahatur in viis illius mens tua: neque decipiaris semitis eius.

{7:25} Do not let your mind be pulled into her ways. And do not be

deceived by her paths.

²⁵ do not let your heart stray into her ways, or wander into her paths;

{7:26} Multos enim vulneratos deiecit, et fortissimi quique interfecti sunt ab ea.

{7:26} For she has tossed aside many wounded, and some of those who were very strong have been slain by her.

²⁶ she has done so many to death, and the strongest have all been her victims.

{7:27} Viæ inferi domus eius, penetrantes in interiora mortis.

{7:27} Her household is the way to Hell, reaching even to the inner places of death.

²⁷ Her house is the way to Sheol, the descent to the courts of death.

End of Proverbs 7

{7:21} Irretivit eum multis sermonibus, et blanditiis labiorum protraxit illum.

{7:21} She enmeshed him with many words, and she drew him forward with the flattery of her lips.

²¹ With her persistent coaxing she overcomes him, lures him on with her wheedling patter.

{7:22} Statim eam sequitur quasi bos ductus ad victimam, et quasi agnus lasciviens, et ignorans quod ad vincula stultus trahatur,

{7:22} Immediately, he follows her, like an ox being led to the sacrifice, and like a lamb acting lasciviously, and not knowing that he is being drawn foolishly into chains,

²² Forthwith he follows her, like an ox on its way to the slaughterhouse, like a madman on his way to the stocks,

{7:23} donec transfigat sagitta iecur eius: velut si avis festinet ad laqueum, et nescit quod de periculo animæ illius agitur.

{7:23} until the arrow pierces his liver. It is just as if a bird were to hurry into the snare. And he does not know that his actions endanger his own soul.

²³ until an arrow pierces him to the liver, like the bird that dashes into the net without realizing that its life is at stake.

{7:24} Nunc ergo fili mi, audi me, et attende verbis oris mei.

{7:24} Therefore, my son, hear me now, and attend to the words of my mouth.

²⁴ And now, son, listen to me, pay attention to the words I have to say:

{7:5} ut custodiant te a muliere extranea, et ab aliena, quæ verba sua dulcia facit.

{7:5} So may she guard you from the woman who is an outsider, and from the stranger who sweetens her words.

⁵ to save yourself from the woman that belongs to another, from the stranger, with her seductive words.

{7:6} De fenestra enim domus meæ per cancellos prospexi,

{7:6} For I gaze from the window of my house, through the lattice,

⁶ While I was at the window of my house, I was looking out through the lattice

{7:7} et video parvulos: considero vecordem iuvenem,

{7:7} and I see little ones. I consider a frenzied youth,

⁷ and I saw, among the callow youths, I noticed among the lads, one boy who had no sense.

{7:8} qui transit per plateam iuxta angulum, et prope viam domus illius, graditur

{7:8} who crosses the street at the corner and close to the way of that house.

⁸ Going along the lane, near the corner where she lives, he reaches the path to her house,

{7:9} in obscuro, advesperascente die, in noctis tenebris, et caligine.

{7:9} He steps into shadows, as day becomes evening, into the darkness and gloom of the night.

⁹ at twilight when day is declining, at dead of night and in the dark.

{7:10} Et ecce occurrit illi mulier ornatu meretricio, præparata ad capiendas animas: garrula, et vaga,

{7:10} And behold, a woman meets him, dressed like a harlot, prepared to captivate souls: chattering and rambling,

¹⁰ And look, a woman is coming to meet him, dressed like a prostitute, false of heart.

{7:11} quietis impatiens, nec valens in domo consistere pedibus suis,

{7:11} unwilling to bear silence, unable to keep her feet at home,

¹¹ She is loud and brazen; her feet cannot rest at home.

{7:12} nunc foris, nunc in plateis, nunc iuxta angulos insidians.

{7:12} now outside, now in the streets, now lying in ambush near the corners.

¹² Once in the street, once in the square, she lurks at every corner.

{7:13} Apprehensumque deosculatur iuvenem, et procaci vultu blanditur, dicens:

{7:13} And overtaking the youth, she kisses him, and with a provocative face, she flatters him, saying:

¹³ She catches hold of him, she kisses him, the bold-faced creature says to him,

{7:14} Victimam pro salute vovi, hodie reddidi vota mea.

{7:14} "I vowed sacrifices for well-being. Today I have repaid my vows.

¹⁴ 'I had to offer a communion sacrifice, I have discharged my vows today;

{7:15} Idcirco egressa sum in occursum tuum, desiderans te videre, et reperi.

{7:15} Because of this, I have gone out to meet you, desiring to see you, and I have found you.

¹⁵ that is why I came out to meet you, to look for you, and now I have found you.

{7:16} Intexui funibus lectulum meum, stravi tapetibus pictis ex Ægypto.

{7:16} I have woven my bed with cords. I have strewn it with embroidered tapestries from Egypt.

¹⁶ I have spread coverlets over my divan, embroidered stuff, Egyptian material,

{7:17} Aspersi cubile meum myrrha, et aloe, et cinnamomo.

{7:17} I have sprinkled my bed with myrrh, aloe, and cinnamon.

¹⁷ I have sprinkled my bed with myrrh, with aloes and cinnamon.

{7:18} Veni, inebriemur uberibus, et fruamur cupitis amplexibus, donec illucescat dies.

{7:18} Come, let us be inebriated in abundance, and let us delight in the embraces of desire, until the day begins to dawn.

¹⁸ Come on, we'll make love as much as we like, till morning. Let us enjoy the delights of love!

{7:19} Non est enim vir in domo sua, abiit via longissima.

{7:19} For my husband is not in his house. He has gone away on a very long journey.

¹⁹ For my husband is not at home, he has gone on a very long journey,

{7:20} Sacculum pecuniæ secum tulit: in die plenæ lunæ reversurus est in domum suam.

{7:20} He took with him a bag of money. He will return to his house on the day of the full moon."

²⁰ taking his moneybags with him; he will not be back till the moon is full.'