

# The Book of Proverbs

## Chapter 14

### *How Wise People Live*

## Proverbs 14:1

**(Pro 14:1 NASB) The wise woman builds her house,  
But the foolish tears it down with her own hands.**

### Six contrasted classes:

1. The wise woman (**Prov 14:1**)
2. The foolish woman
3. The righteous (**Prov 14:2**)
4. The wicked and perverse
5. The foolish man (**Prov 14:3**)
6. The wise man

The wise woman through proper management increases the property, furniture, food and clothing of the household, but the thrifless woman causes these blessings to depart.

## Proverbs 14:1

### *How Wise People Live*

**(Pro 14:1 ISV\*) ¶ Every wise woman builds up her household,**

**but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands.**

**(Pro 14:1 KJV+) Every wise<sup>H2454</sup> woman<sup>H802</sup> buildeth<sup>H1129</sup> her house:<sup>H1004</sup>**

**but the foolish<sup>H200</sup> plucketh it down<sup>H2040</sup> with her hands.<sup>H3027</sup>**

**(Pro 14:1 NASB) The wise woman builds her house,  
But the foolish tears it down with her own hands.**

**(Pro 14:1 NIV) The wise woman builds her house,  
but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.**

## Proverbs 14:2

**(Pro 14:2 ISV\*) ¶ Someone whose conduct is upright fears the LORD,  
but whoever is devious in his ways despises him.**

**(Pro 14:2 KJV+) He that walketh<sup>H1980</sup> in his uprightness<sup>H3476</sup> feareth<sup>H3372</sup> the LORD:<sup>H3068</sup>  
but *he that is* perverse<sup>H3868</sup> in his ways<sup>H1870</sup> despiseth<sup>H959</sup> him.**

**(Pro 14:2 NASB) He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD,  
But he who is devious in his ways despises Him.**

**(Pro 14:2 NIV) He whose walk is upright fears the LORD,  
but he whose ways are devious despises him.**

The upright fear the Lord, but the perverse man despises Him.

## Proverbs 14:3

**(Pro 14:3 ISV\*) ¶ What a fool says brings** [Lit. *The mouth of the fool*] **a rod to his back,**

**but the words of the wise protect them.**

**(Pro 14:3 KJV+) In the mouth<sup>H6310</sup> of the foolish<sup>H191</sup> is a rod<sup>H2415</sup> of pride:<sup>H1346</sup>  
but the lips<sup>H8193</sup> of the wise<sup>H2450</sup> shall preserve<sup>H8104</sup> them.**

**(Pro 14:3 NASB) In the mouth of the foolish is a rod for his back,**

**But the lips of the wise will protect them.**

**(Pro 14:3 NIV) A fool's talk brings a rod to his back, but the lips of the wise protect them.**

The words of the foolish man are a source of pride causing his fall, but those of the wise man keep him from falling.

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## Proverbs 14:4

### Twelve Ways an Ox Is Better than a Horse

1. It lives longer.
2. It is not as likely to be diseased.
3. It is a more steady worker.
4. It fattens and maintains its strength on what a horse will not eat.
5. It costs less to feed.
6. Its manure is more profitable.
7. When worn out, its flesh is still good for food.
8. Its horns are useful.
9. Its hide is more valuable.
10. It doesn't need shoes.
11. Its harness is cheaper and simpler.
12. It is more patient and docile, and less dangerous.

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## Proverbs 14:4

**(Pro 14:4 ISV\*) ¶ Where there are no oxen, the feeding trough is clean,**

**but profits come through the strength of the ox.**

**(Pro 14:4 KJV+) Where no<sup>H369</sup> oxen<sup>H504</sup> are, the crib<sup>H18</sup> is clean:<sup>H1249</sup>  
but much<sup>H7230</sup> increase<sup>H8393</sup> is by the strength<sup>H3581</sup> of the ox.<sup>H7794</sup>**

**(Pro 14:4 NASB) Where no oxen are, the manger is clean, But much revenue comes by the strength of the ox.**

**(Pro 14:4 NIV) Where there are no oxen, the manger is empty, but from the strength of an ox comes an abundant harvest.**

**[oxen]** The ox was the most profitable farm animal. It excels the horse in every respect except speed.

**[increase is by the strength of the ox]** Increase in material prosperity comes by utilizing the oxen for labor.

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## Proverbs 14:5

**(Pro 14:5 ISV\*) ¶ A trustworthy witness does not deceive,  
but a false witness spews lies.**

**(Pro 14:5 KJV+) A faithful<sup>H529</sup> witness<sup>H5707</sup> will not<sup>H3808</sup> lie:<sup>H3576</sup>  
but a false<sup>H8267</sup> witness<sup>H5707</sup> will utter<sup>H6315</sup> lies.<sup>H3577</sup>**

**(Pro 14:5 NASB) A trustworthy witness will not lie, But a false witness utters lies.**

**(Pro 14:5 NIV) A truthful witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies.**

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## Proverbs 14:5

**(Pro 14:5 NASB) A trustworthy witness will not lie,  
But a false witness utters lies.**

Five examples of faithful witnesses:

1. Joseph (**Gen 37:2**)
2. John the Baptist (**Matt 3; John 1:7-28**)
3. Jesus Christ (**Rev 1:5**)
4. The apostles (**Acts 5:32**)
5. Paul (**Acts 20:21-27; 22:15**)

Four examples of false witnesses:

1. Ten spies (**Num 13:32**)
2. False prophets (**1 Kings 22:6-27**)
3. Jewish men (**Matt 26:60-61**)
4. Tertullus (**Acts 24:1-9**)

## Proverbs 14:6

**(Pro 14:6 NASB) A scoffer seeks wisdom and finds none,  
But knowledge is easy to one who has understanding.**

Rebels seek wisdom but don't find it because they reject God, the source of wisdom (**Prov 1:7; 9:10**).

Three examples of not finding truth:

1. Jews in Christ's ministry (**Matt 13:15**)
2. Jews in Paul's ministry (**Acts 13:41**)
3. Athenians (**2 Cor 1:23; 2:8**)

Knowledge is hard for the one who rebels and won't believe truth when he hears it; but it is easy for him to understand who is open to truth and will believe what he hears (**Matt 13:10-17, notes**).

## Proverbs 14:6

**(Pro 14:6 ISV\*) ¶ A mocker seeks wisdom and finds <sup>[The Heb. lacks finds]</sup> none,**

**but learning comes easily to someone who understands.**

**(Pro 14:6 KJV+) A scorner<sup>H3887</sup> seeketh<sup>H1245</sup> wisdom,<sup>H2451</sup> and findeth it not:<sup>H369</sup>**

**but knowledge<sup>H1847</sup> is easy<sup>H7043</sup> unto him that understandeth.<sup>H995</sup>**

**(Pro 14:6 NASB) A scoffer seeks wisdom and finds none,  
But knowledge is easy to one who has understanding.**

**(Pro 14:6 NIV) The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none,  
but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.**

## Proverbs 14:7

**(Pro 14:7 ISV\*) ¶ Stay away from a foolish man,  
for you will not find competent advice.**

**(Pro 14:7 KJV+) Go<sup>H1980</sup> from the presence<sup>H4480 H5048</sup> of a foolish<sup>H3684</sup> man,<sup>H376</sup> when thou perceivest<sup>H3045</sup> not<sup>H1077</sup> in him the lips<sup>H8193</sup> of knowledge.<sup>H1847</sup>**

**(Pro 14:7 NASB) Leave the presence of a fool,  
Or you will not discern words of knowledge.**

**(Pro 14:7 NIV) Stay away from a foolish man,  
for you will not find knowledge on his lips.**

## Proverbs 14:7

**(Pro 14:7 NASB) Leave the presence of a fool,  
Or you will not discern words of knowledge.**

Never associate with vain, empty, ignorant men who can neither convey nor receive truth (**Matt 7:6**).

**[foolish]** Hebrew: **keciyl** (OT:3684) means dense or stupid, manifesting itself in impiety and irreverence.

Used 49 times in Proverbs (**Prov 1:22,32; 3:35; 8:5; 10:1,18,23; 12:23; 13:16,19-20; 14:7-8,16,24,33; 15:2,7,14,20; 17:10,12,16,21,24-25; 18:2,6-7; 19:1,10,13,29; 21:20; 23:9; 26:1,3-12; 28:26; 29:11,20**).

## Proverbs 14:9

**(Pro 14:9 ISV\*) ¶ Fools make fun of guilt,  
but among the upright there are good intentions.**

**(Pro 14:9 KJV+) Fools<sup>H191</sup> make a mock<sup>H3887</sup> at sin:<sup>H817</sup>  
but among<sup>H996</sup> the righteous<sup>H3477</sup> *there is favour.*<sup>H7522</sup>**

**(Pro 14:9 NASB) Fools mock at sin,  
But among the upright there is good will.**

**(Pro 14:9 NIV) Fools mock at making amends for sin,  
but goodwill is found among the upright.**

Fools make sport of sin and live in disfavor with all who are good, but the righteous find favor.

## Proverbs 14:8

**(Pro 14:8 ISV\*) ¶ The wisdom of the prudent helps him  
know how to live,  
but a fool's stupidity deceives him.**

**(Pro 14:8 KJV+) The wisdom<sup>H2451</sup> of the prudent<sup>H6175</sup> is  
to understand<sup>H995</sup> his way:<sup>H1870</sup>  
but the folly<sup>H200</sup> of fools<sup>H3684</sup> is deceit.<sup>H4820</sup>**

**(Pro 14:8 NASB) The wisdom of the sensible is to  
understand his way,  
But the foolishness of fools is deceit.**

**(Pro 14:8 NIV) The wisdom of the prudent is to give  
thought to their ways,  
but the folly of fools is deception.**

The wisdom of the prudent is to direct his way rightly, but the folly of fools is to live deceitful lives.

## Proverbs 14:10

**(Pro 14:10 ISV\*) ¶ The heart knows its own bitterness—  
an outsider cannot share in its joy.**

**(Pro 14:10 KJV+) The heart<sup>H3820</sup> knoweth<sup>H3045</sup> his  
own<sup>H5315</sup> bitterness;<sup>H4787</sup>  
and a stranger<sup>H2114</sup> doth not<sup>H3808</sup> intermeddle<sup>H6148</sup> with  
his joy.<sup>H8057</sup>**

**(Pro 14:10 NASB) The heart knows its own bitterness,  
And a stranger does not share its joy.**

**(Pro 14:10 NIV) Each heart knows its own bitterness,  
and no one else can share its joy.**

The heart knows its own bitterness, and let no man hinder its joy.

## Proverbs 14:11

(Pro 14:11 ISV\*) ¶ The house of the wicked will be destroyed,  
but the tent of the upright will flourish.

(Pro 14:11 KJV+) The house<sup>H1004</sup> of the wicked<sup>H7563</sup> shall be overthrown:<sup>H8045</sup>  
but the tabernacle<sup>H168</sup> of the upright<sup>H3477</sup> shall flourish.<sup>H6524</sup>

(Pro 14:11 NASB) The house of the wicked will be destroyed,

But the tent of the upright will flourish.

(Pro 14:11 NIV) The house of the wicked will be destroyed,  
but the tent of the upright will flourish.

The 10th prophecy in Proverbs (**Prov 14:11**, being fulfilled).  
Next, **Prov 16:5**.

The godly will live forever (**Gen 9:12**).

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## Proverbs 14:12

(Pro 14:12 ISV\*) ¶ There is a pathway that seems right to a man,  
but in the end it's a road to death.

(Pro 14:12 KJV+) There is<sup>H3426</sup> a way<sup>H1870</sup> which seemeth right<sup>H3477</sup> unto<sup>H6440</sup> a man,<sup>H376</sup>  
but the end<sup>H319</sup> thereof are the ways<sup>H1870</sup> of death.<sup>H4194</sup>

(Pro 14:12 NASB) There is a way *which seems* right to a man,

But its end is the way of death.

(Pro 14:12 NIV) There is a way that seems right to a man,  
but in the end it leads to death.

(Prov 14:12 RSV) There is a way which seems right to a man  
but its end is the way of death.

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## Proverbs 14:12

(Pro 14:12 NASB) There is a way *which seems* right to a man,  
But its end is the way of death.

Verse 12 refers to the underlying secrets of life.

Therefore, "Trust in the Lord and lean not to your own insight" is the remedy.

A man may persuade himself that his besetting sin, false religion, and selfish way are right, but whatever is not God's way will end in death and hell.

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## Proverbs 14:12

(Pro 14:12 NASB) There is a way *which seems* right to a man,  
But its end is the way of death.

Four examples of following false ways:

1. Jeroboam (**1 Kings 12:27-33; 14:7-11**)
2. Josiah (**2 Chron 35:20-24**)
3. Paul (**Phil 3:4-7; 1 Tim 1:13**)
4. Jews (**John 16:2; Acts 13:50**)

Five examples of the end result of the wrong way:

1. Nabal (**1 Sam 25:36-37**)
2. Solomon (**1 Kings 11:1-8; Eccl 2:2**)
3. Belshazzar (**Dan 5**)
4. Israelites (**Amos 6:3-7**)
5. Judas (**Acts 1:25**)

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## Proverbs 14:13

(Pro 14:13 ISV\*) ¶ Even in laughter there may be heartache,  
and at the end of joy there may be grief.

(Pro 14:13 KJV+) Even<sup>H1571</sup> in laughter<sup>H7814</sup> the heart<sup>H3820</sup> is sorrowful;<sup>H3510</sup>  
and the end<sup>H319</sup> of that mirth<sup>H8057</sup> is heaviness.<sup>H8424</sup>

(Pro 14:13 NASB) Even in laughter the heart may be in pain,  
And the end of joy may be grief.

(Pro 14:13 NIV) Even in laughter the heart may ache,  
and joy may end in grief.

The sorrowful heart may hide behind forced smiles and laughter, but its heaviness will eventually be revealed.

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## Proverbs 14:14

(Pro 14:14 NASB) The backslider in heart will have his fill of his own ways,  
But a good man will *be satisfied* with his.

The backslider in heart will be satisfied with his ways, but a good man will be satisfied when he is free from his own ways (**2 Cor 5:17-18**).

[backslider] Hebrew: **cuwg** (OT:5472), to flinch; to go back; to apostatize.

Backslider is used only once, but backsliding is found 16 times.

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## Proverbs 14:14

(Pro 14:14 ISV\*) ¶ The faithless one will pay for his behavior, [Lit. ways]  
but a good man will be rewarded [The Heb. lacks *will be rewarded*] for his.

(Pro 14:14 KJV+) The backslider<sup>H5472</sup> in heart<sup>H3820</sup> shall be filled<sup>H7646</sup> with his own ways;<sup>H4480 H1870</sup>  
and a good<sup>H2896</sup> man<sup>H376</sup> shall be satisfied from<sup>H4480 H5921</sup> himself.

(Pro 14:14 NASB) The backslider in heart will have his fill of his own ways,  
But a good man will *be satisfied* with his.

(Pro 14:14 NIV) The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways,  
and the good man rewarded for his.

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## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

1. They will not listen to God (Lev 26:14).
2. They will not obey commands (Lev 26:14).
3. They despise God's statutes (Lev 26:15).
4. They abhor God's judgments (Lev 26:15).
5. They break God's covenant (Lev 26:15).
6. They forget God (Deut 8:11).
7. They forsake God (Deut 32:15; 2 Chron 15:2).
8. They provoke God (Deut 32:16).
9. They turn again to folly (Ps 85:8).
10. They turn aside to sin (Ps 125:5).
11. They turn from righteousness (Eze 3:20; 18:16-24; 33:12-18)
12. They cast God behind them (Ezek 23:35).
13. They trust their own righteousness (Ezek 33:13).
14. They are bent on backsliding (Hos 11:7).
15. They lose savor (Matt 5:13).
16. They grow cold in love (Matt 24:12).
17. They become offended (Mark 4:17).

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## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

18. They fall away by temptation (Luke 8:13).
19. They permit cares of world, deceitfulness of riches, and lusts of other things to choke the Word (Mark 4:18-19).
20. They become ashamed of Christ (Mark 8:38).
21. They look back to old life (Luke 9:62).
22. They become defeated by Satan (Luke 11:21).
23. They are overcome by sin (2 Peter 2:20).
24. They lust after evil things (1 Cor 10:6).
25. They are idolatrous (1 Cor 10:7).
26. They commit fornication (1 Cor 10:8).
27. They tempt Christ (1 Cor 10:9).
28. They murmur (1 Cor 10:10).
29. They become filled with debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults (2 Cor 12:20-21).
30. They remove from Christ (Gal 1:6-8).
31. They disobey truth (Gal 3:1).
32. They fall from grace (Gal 5:4).

## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

33. They turn again to the old bondage of sin (Gal 4:9; 5:1; 6:1).
34. They put away faith (1 Tim 1:9).
35. They turn aside after Satan (1 Tim 5:15).
36. They love money (1 Tim 6:10-21).
37. They err from the faith (1 Tim 6:10-21).
38. They depart from the faith (1 Tim 4:1-8).
39. They deny Christ (2 Tim 2:12).
40. They love the present world (2 Tim 4:10).
41. They depart from God (Heb 3:12).
42. They harden hearts by sin (Heb 3:12-13).
43. They fall in unbelief (Heb 4:11).
44. They fall away (Heb 6:4-9; 10:26-29).
45. They fail God's grace (Heb 12:15).
46. They permit roots of bitterness to defile them (Heb 12:15).
47. They become blind (2 Peter 1:9).
48. They become barren and unfruitful (2 Peter 1:8).
49. They forget purging from sin (2 Peter 1:9).

## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

50. They do not make their calling and election sure (2 Peter 1:10).
51. They turn away from the holy commandment (2 Peter 2:20).
52. They abide not in the doctrine of Christ and of God (2 John 9).
53. They abide not in Christ (John 15:1-8).
54. They leave first love (Rev 2:4-5).
55. They permit heart to depart from God (Jer 17:9; Heb 3:12).
56. They give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons (1 Tim 4:1-8).
57. They turn away from truth (2 Tim 4:1-4).
58. They fall from their own steadfastness in Christ (2 Peter 3:17).
59. They err from the truth (James 5:19-20).
60. They become cut off (Rom 11:22).
61. They become broken off (Rom 11:17-24).
62. They shipwreck faith (1 Tim 1:19).
63. They neglect salvation (Heb 2:1-4).
64. They become castaways (1 Cor 9:27).
65. They become corrupted from the simplicity in Christ (2 Cor 11:3).

## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

66. They Fail to continue in faith (Col 1:23).
67. They fail to continue seeking life and immortality (Rom 2:7-8).
68. They go back and walk no more with Christ (John 6:66-68).
69. They fail to take heed lest they fall (1 Cor 10:12-14).
70. They sin against God (Ex 32:32-33).
71. They cast off their first faith (1 Tim 5:12).
72. They defile the body (1 Cor 3:16-17).
73. They draw back into perdition (Heb 10:39).
74. They do not endure (Matt 10:22).
75. They move away from the hope (Col 1:23).
76. They fail to walk in the Spirit (Rom 8:1-13; Gal 5:16-26).
77. They fail to stand fast (1 Thess 3:8).
78. They hate the brethren (1 John 3:15).
79. They serve sin (John 8:32-36; Matt 6:24).
80. They yield to sin (Rom 6:14-23).
81. They sow to the flesh (Gal 6:7-8).
82. They fail to hold fast to the end (Heb 3:6,12-14; 4:1-11; 6:19).

## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

83. They come short of the goal (Heb 4:1).
84. They fail to labor to enter life (Heb 4:11; note, John 6:27).
85. They fail to put to death the deeds of the body (Rom 8:12-13; 1 Cor 6:9-11; Col 3:5-10).
86. They refuse to walk in Christ as they received Him (Col 2:6-7).
87. They continue in sin thinking grace will abound (Rom 6).
88. They turn heart back (Ps 44:18).
89. They decline to walk with God (Ps 44:18).
90. They turn way back (Isa 50:5; Jer 38:22).
91. They are rebellious (Isa 50:5).
92. They cast law behind backs (Neh 9:26).
93. They turn their back on God (Jer 2:27).
94. They turn back from the Lord (Zeph 1:6).
95. They slide back from God (Jer 8:5).
96. They refuse to return to God (Jer 8:5).
97. They backslide many times (Jer 14:7).
98. They backslide like a heifer (Hos 4:16).
99. They go backward, not forward (Jer 7:24).

## Ninety-nine Ways of Backsliders (Prov 14:14)

All this indicates a man who once walked in the way of God but has now turned against Him;

- a man who fought the world, the flesh, and the devil and has retreated from battle and joined the enemy;
- a man who once belonged with saints, but is now removed from them; and
- a man who has been overcome by sin and Satan and is filled with his own ways

## Proverbs 14:15

**(Pro 14:15 ISV\*) ¶ An unthinking person believes everything, but the prudent one thinks before acting. [Lit. one considers his steps]**

**(Pro 14:15 KJV+) The simple<sup>H6612</sup> believeth<sup>H539</sup> every<sup>H3605</sup> word:<sup>H1697</sup> but the prudent<sup>H6175</sup> man looketh well<sup>H995</sup> to his going.<sup>H838</sup>**

**(Pro 14:15 NASB) The naive believes everything, But the sensible man considers his steps.**

**(Pro 14:15 NIV) A simple man believes anything, but a prudent man gives thought to his steps.**

The simple man is gullible, but the wise man discerns between the ways of good and evil.

## Proverbs 14:16

**(Pro 14:16 ISV\*) ¶ The wise person fears and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and overconfident.**

**(Pro 14:16 KJV+) A wise<sup>H2450</sup> man feareth,<sup>H3373</sup> and departeth<sup>H5493</sup> from evil:<sup>H4480 H7451</sup> but the fool<sup>H3684</sup> rageth,<sup>H5674</sup> and is confident.<sup>H982</sup>**

**(Pro 14:16 NASB) A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil, But a fool is arrogant and careless.**

**(Pro 14:16 NIV) A wise man fears the LORD and shuns evil, but a fool is hotheaded and reckless.**

A wise man fears God and never trusts in himself in departing from evil, but the fool boasts in self-confidence.



## Proverbs 14:17

(Pro 14:17 ISV\*) ¶ A quick tempered person does foolish things,  
and a devious man is hated.

(Pro 14:17 KJV+) *He that is soon*<sup>H7116</sup> *angry*<sup>H639</sup> *dealeth*<sup>H6213</sup> *foolishly*<sup>H200</sup>  
and a man<sup>H376</sup> of wicked devices<sup>H4209</sup> is hated.<sup>H8130</sup>

(Pro 14:17 NASB) A quick-tempered man acts foolishly,  
And a man of evil devices is hated.

(Pro 14:17 NIV) A quick-tempered man does foolish things,  
and a crafty man is hated.

A quickly angered man acts foolishly and a man of wicked schemes is hated.

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## Proverbs 14:19

(Pro 14:19 ISV\*) ¶ Evil men will bow down in the presence of good men  
and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

(Pro 14:19 KJV+) The evil<sup>H7451</sup> bow<sup>H7817</sup> before<sup>H6440</sup> the good;<sup>H2896</sup>  
and the wicked<sup>H7563</sup> at<sup>H5921</sup> the gates<sup>H8179</sup> of the righteous.<sup>H6662</sup>

(Pro 14:19 NASB) The evil will bow down before the good,  
And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

(Pro 14:19 NIV) Evil men will bow down in the presence of the good,  
and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

The wicked will be brought down to respect the righteous.

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## Proverbs 14:18

(Pro 14:18 ISV\*) ¶ The naïve inherit folly,  
but the careful are crowned with knowledge.

(Pro 14:18 KJV+) The simple<sup>H6612</sup> inherit<sup>H5157</sup> folly;<sup>H200</sup>  
but the prudent<sup>H6175</sup> are crowned<sup>H3803</sup> with knowledge.<sup>H1847</sup>

(Pro 14:18 NASB) The naive inherit foolishness,  
But the sensible are crowned with knowledge.

(Pro 14:18 NIV) The simple inherit folly,  
but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

The simple are born with a disposition to folly, but the wise embrace knowledge.

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## Proverbs 14:20

(Pro 14:20 ISV\*) ¶ The poor person is shunned by his neighbor,  
but many are the friends of the wealthy.

(Pro 14:20 KJV+) The poor<sup>H7326</sup> is hated<sup>H8130</sup> even<sup>H1571</sup> of his own neighbour;<sup>H7453</sup>  
but the rich<sup>H6223</sup> hath many<sup>H7227</sup> friends.<sup>H157</sup>

(Pro 14:20 NASB) The poor is hated even by his neighbor,  
But those who love the rich are many.

(Pro 14:20 NIV) The poor are shunned even by their neighbors,  
but the rich have many friends.

Riches make many fair-weather friends.

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## Proverbs 14:21

(Pro 14:21 ISV\*) ¶ Whoever despises his neighbor sins,  
but whoever shows kindness to the poor will be  
happy.

(Pro 14:21 KJV+) He that despiseth<sup>H936</sup> his  
neighbour<sup>H7453</sup> sinneth.<sup>H2398</sup>  
but he that hath mercy on<sup>H2603</sup> the poor,<sup>H6035</sup>  
happy<sup>H835</sup> is he.

(Pro 14:21 NASB) He who despises his neighbor sins,  
But happy is he who is gracious to the poor.

(Pro 14:21 NIV) He who despises his neighbor sins,  
but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.

Happy is the man who completely impartial (*James 2:9-10*).

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## Proverbs 14:23

(Pro 14:23 ISV\*) ¶ In hard work there is always profit,  
but too much chattering [Lit. *word of lips*] leads to poverty.

(Pro 14:23 KJV+) In all<sup>H3605</sup> labour<sup>H6089</sup> there is<sup>H1961</sup>  
profit.<sup>H4195</sup>  
but the talk<sup>H1697</sup> of the lips<sup>H8193</sup> *tendeth* only<sup>H389</sup> to  
penury.<sup>H4270</sup>

(Pro 14:23 NASB) In all labor there is profit,  
But mere talk *leads* only to poverty.

(Pro 14:23 NIV) All hard work brings a profit,  
but mere talk leads only to poverty.

All labor profits, but all talk and no work brings poverty.  
A man of words is not always a man of deeds.

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## Proverbs 14:22

(Pro 14:22 ISV\*) ¶ Won't those who continually plot evil go  
astray?  
But gracious love and truth are for those who plan what  
is good.

(Pro 14:22 KJV+) Do they not<sup>H3808</sup> err<sup>H8582</sup> that devise<sup>H2790</sup>  
evil?<sup>H7451</sup>  
but mercy<sup>H2617</sup> and truth<sup>H571</sup> *shall be* to them that  
devise<sup>H2790</sup> good.<sup>H2896</sup>

(Pro 14:22 NASB) Will they not go astray who devise evil?  
But kindness and truth *will be* to those who devise  
good.

(Pro 14:22 NIV) Do not those who plot evil go astray?  
But those who plan what is good find love and  
faithfulness.

Question 10. Next, *Prov 15:11*.

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## Proverbs 14:24

(Pro 14:24 ISV\*) ¶ The crown of the wise is their wealth,  
but the stupidity of fools is just that—stupidity!

(Pro 14:24 KJV+) The crown<sup>H5850</sup> of the wise<sup>H2450</sup> *is* their  
riches:<sup>H6239</sup>  
*but* the foolishness<sup>H200</sup> of fools<sup>H3684</sup> *is* folly.<sup>H200</sup>

(Pro 14:24 NASB) The crown of the wise is their riches,  
*But* the folly of fools is foolishness.

(Pro 14:24 NIV) The wealth of the wise is their crown,  
but the folly of fools yields folly.

The crown of the wise is their riches, but the fool produces  
folly by his acts of foolishness.

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## Proverbs 14:25

(Pro 14:25 ISV\*) ¶ A truthful witness saves lives,  
but the person who lies is deceitful.

(Pro 14:25 KJV+) A true<sup>H571</sup> witness<sup>H5707</sup> delivereth<sup>H5337</sup>  
souls:<sup>H5315</sup>  
but a deceitful<sup>H4820</sup> witness speaketh<sup>H6315</sup> lies.<sup>H3577</sup>

(Pro 14:25 NASB) A truthful witness saves lives,  
But he who utters lies is treacherous.

(Pro 14:25 NIV) A truthful witness saves lives,  
but a false witness is deceitful.

A true witness delivers the innocent, but a liar slanders him.

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## Proverbs 14:26

(Pro 14:26 NASB) In the fear of the LORD there is strong  
confidence,  
And his children will have refuge.

Four blessings of the fear of God:

1. Strong confidence (**Prov 14:26**)
2. A place of refuge — security
3. Eternal life (**Prov 14:27**)
4. Holiness of life and conduct

Seven examples of strong confidence:

1. Abraham (**Gen 22:3-10; Heb 11:19**)
2. David (**1 Sam 30:6**)
3. Hezekiah (**2 Chron 32:7-8,22**)
4. Three Hebrew children (**Dan 3:17-27**)
5. Habakkuk (**Hab 3:17-19**)
6. Peter (**Acts 12:6**)
7. Paul (**2 Tim 4:6-8**)

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## Proverbs 14:26

(Pro 14:26 ISV\*) ¶ Rock-solid security is found [<sup>The Heb.</sup>  
*lacks is found*] in the fear of the LORD,  
and within it one's children find refuge.

(Pro 14:26 KJV+) In the fear<sup>H3374</sup> of the LORD<sup>H3068</sup> is  
strong<sup>H5797</sup> confidence.<sup>H4009</sup>  
and his children<sup>H1121</sup> shall have<sup>H1961</sup> a place of  
refuge.<sup>H4268</sup>

(Pro 14:26 NASB) In the fear of the LORD there is  
strong confidence,  
And his children will have refuge.

(Pro 14:26 NIV) He who fears the LORD has a secure  
fortress,  
and for his children it will be a refuge.

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## Proverbs 14:27

(Pro 14:27 ISV\*) ¶ The fear of the LORD is a fountain of  
life,  
enabling anyone to escape the snares of death.

(Pro 14:27 KJV+) The fear<sup>H3374</sup> of the LORD<sup>H3068</sup> is a  
fountain<sup>H4726</sup> of life,<sup>H2416</sup>  
to depart<sup>H5493</sup> from the snares<sup>H4480 H4170</sup> of death.<sup>H4194</sup>

(Pro 14:27 NASB) The fear of the LORD is a fountain of  
life,  
That one may avoid the snares of death.

(Pro 14:27 NIV) The fear of the LORD is a fountain of  
life,  
turning a man from the snares of death.

To depart from evil through the fear of God is to obtain  
eternal life.

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## Proverbs 14:28

(Pro 14:28 ISV\*) ¶ A large population is a king's glory,  
but a shortage of people is a ruler's ruin.

(Pro 14:28 KJV+) In the multitude<sup>H7230</sup> of people<sup>H5971</sup> is  
the king's<sup>H4428</sup> honour:<sup>H1927</sup>  
but in the want<sup>H657</sup> of people<sup>H3816</sup> is the  
destruction<sup>H4288</sup> of the prince.<sup>H7333</sup>

(Pro 14:28 NASB) In a multitude of people is a king's  
glory,  
But in the dearth of people is a prince's ruin.

(Pro 14:28 NIV) A large population is a king's glory,  
but without subjects a prince is ruined.

The popularity of a king is his security, but the rebellion of  
the people is his downfall.

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## Proverbs 14:29

(Pro 14:29 NASB) He who is slow to anger has great  
understanding,  
But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.

A wise man is slow to wrath, but a fool is hasty of spirit  
and magnifies folly.

Four examples of a hasty spirit:

1. Rehoboam (**1 Kings 12**)
2. Jehoram (**2 Kings 5:7**)
3. Jonah (**Jonah 4:8-9**)
4. Martha (**Luke 10:40**)

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## Proverbs 14:29

(Pro 14:29 ISV\*) ¶ Being slow to get angry compares to  
great understanding  
as being quick-tempered compares to stupidity.

(Pro 14:29 KJV+) *He that is slow*<sup>H750</sup> *to wrath*<sup>H639</sup> *is of*  
*great*<sup>H7227</sup> *understanding:*<sup>H8394</sup>  
*but he that is hasty*<sup>H7116</sup> *of spirit*<sup>H7307</sup> *exalteth*<sup>H7311</sup>  
*folly.*<sup>H200</sup>

(Pro 14:29 NASB) He who is slow to anger has great  
understanding,  
But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.

(Pro 14:29 NIV) A patient man has great understanding,  
but a quick-tempered man displays folly.

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## Proverbs 14:30

(Pro 14:30 ISV\*) ¶ A tranquil mind brings life to one's  
body,  
but jealousy causes one's bones to rot.

(Pro 14:30 KJV+) A sound<sup>H4832</sup> heart<sup>H3820</sup> is the life<sup>H2416</sup> of  
the flesh:<sup>H1320</sup>  
but envy<sup>H7068</sup> the rottenness<sup>H7538</sup> of the bones.<sup>H6106</sup>

(Pro 14:30 NASB) A tranquil heart is life to the body,  
But passion is rottenness to the bones.

(Pro 14:30 NIV) A heart at peace gives life to the body,  
but envy rots the bones.

A strong heart has good blood circulation, producing health  
and longevity; but envy, jealousy, and passionate hatred  
produce corruption.

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## Proverbs 14:31

(Pro 14:31 ISV\*) ¶ Whoever oppresses the poor defies their Creator,

but whoever is kind to the needy honors them.

(Pro 14:31 KJV+) He that oppresseth<sup>H6231</sup> the poor<sup>H1800</sup> reproacheth<sup>H2778</sup> his Maker:<sup>H6213</sup>

but he that honoureth<sup>H3513</sup> him hath mercy<sup>H2603</sup> on the poor.<sup>H34</sup>

(Pro 14:31 NASB) He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker,

But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him.

(Pro 14:31 NIV) He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,

but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

(Prov 14:31 RSV) He who oppresses a poor man insults his Maker,

but he who is kind to the needy honors him.

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## Proverbs 14:31

(Pro 14:31 NASB) He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker,

But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him.

Here is the word on the need to recognize the unity of life.

The "I-It." relationship is an insult to someone.

The "I-Thou" is the only thing that expresses the concern of a Christian.

He that oppresses the poor insults God who made them, but he who blesses the poor honors God.

[Maker] An ancient title of God found here; **Prov 17:5; Job 35:10; Isa 17:7; 51:13; 54:5.**

It refers to God as Creator of the weak as well as the strong.

## Proverbs 14:32

(Pro 14:32 ISV\*) ¶ The wicked person is thrown down by his own wrongdoing,

but the righteous person has a place of safety in death. [So MT DSS 4QProv; LXX reads *in his own piety*]

(Pro 14:32 KJV+) The wicked<sup>H7563</sup> is driven away<sup>H1760</sup> in his wickedness:<sup>H7451</sup>

but the righteous<sup>H6662</sup> hath hope<sup>H2620</sup> in his death.<sup>H4194</sup>

(Pro 14:32 NASB) The wicked is thrust down by his wrongdoing,

But the righteous has a refuge when he dies.

(Pro 14:32 NIV) When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down,

but even in death the righteous have a refuge.

The wicked have no hope in the harvest of their life of wickedness, but the righteous have hope of reaping life eternal (**Gal 6:7-8**).

## Proverbs 14:32

(Pro 14:32 NASB) The wicked is thrust down by his wrongdoing, But the righteous has a refuge when he dies.

Seven examples of destruction through sin:

1. Dathan (**Num 16:33**)
2. Israel (**Ex 32:28; 1 Cor 10:1-11**)
3. Balaam (**Num 31:8-10; Rev 2:14**)
4. Canaanites (**Deut 9:5; Josh 2:9; 5:1**)
5. Hophni and Phinehas (**1 Sam 4:11**)
6. Baal's prophets (**1 Kings 18:40**)
7. Belshazzar (**Dan 5:2-6,30**)

Six examples of righteous hoping in death:

1. Jacob (**Gen 49:18**)
2. Joseph (**Gen 50:24-25; Heb 11:22**)
3. David (**2 Sam 23:5; Ps 17:15**)
4. Stephen (**Acts 7:55-60**)
5. Paul (**2 Tim 4:6-8**)
6. Peter (**2 Peter 1:14-16; 3:13**)

## Proverbs 14:33

(Pro 14:33 ISV\*) ¶ Wisdom is at rest in the mind of the discerning—  
even fools know this. [So MT; LXX reads *but in the heart of fools it is not discerned*]

(Pro 14:33 KJV+) Wisdom<sup>H2451</sup> resteth<sup>H5117</sup> in the heart<sup>H3820</sup> of him that hath understanding:<sup>H995</sup>  
but *that which* is in the midst<sup>H7130</sup> of fools<sup>H3684</sup> is made known.<sup>H3045</sup>

(Pro 14:33 NASB) Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding,  
But in the hearts of fools it is made known.

(Pro 14:33 NIV) Wisdom reposes in the heart of the discerning  
and even among fools she lets herself be known.

A wise man does not display his wisdom, but a fool parades all he knows.

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## Proverbs 14:34

(Pro 14:34 NASB) Righteousness exalts a nation,  
But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.

[Righteousness exalteth a nation] This has been true of Israel at different times (*Deut 4:6; Josh 1:8; 10:42; 23:14*).

Seven examples of sin being a reproach:

1. Sodom and Gomorrah (*Gen 19*)
2. Canaanites (*Lev 18:24-30*)
3. Egypt (*Ex 12:12; Ezek 29:1-15*)
4. Amalekites (*Ex 17:16; 1 Sam 15*)
5. Babylon (*Isa 14:4-23; 47:6-15*)
6. Tyre (*Isa 23:1-9; Ezek 28:2-8*)
7. Nineveh (*Zeph 2:13-15*)

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## Proverbs 14:34

(Pro 14:34 ISV\*) ¶ Righteousness makes a nation great,  
but sin diminishes [So DSS 4QProb LXX; MT reads *sin is a disgrace to*] any people.

(Pro 14:34 KJV+) Righteousness<sup>H6666</sup> exalteth<sup>H7311</sup> a nation:<sup>H1471</sup>  
but sin<sup>H2403</sup> is a reproach<sup>H2617</sup> to any people.<sup>H3816</sup>

(Pro 14:34 NASB) Righteousness exalts a nation,  
But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.

(Pro 14:34 NIV) Righteousness exalts a nation,  
but sin is a disgrace to any people.

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## Proverbs 14:35

(Pro 14:35 ISV\*) ¶ The king approves the wise servant,  
but he is angry at anyone who acts shamefully.

(Pro 14:35 KJV+) The king's<sup>H4428</sup> favour<sup>H7522</sup> is toward a wise<sup>H7919</sup> servant:<sup>H5650</sup>  
but his wrath<sup>H5678</sup> is<sup>H1961</sup> *against* him that causeth shame.<sup>H954</sup>

(Pro 14:35 NASB) The king's favor is toward a servant who acts wisely,  
But his anger is toward him who acts shamefully.

(Pro 14:35 NIV) A king delights in a wise servant,  
but a shameful servant incurs his wrath.

A wise servant will gain the favor of the king, but a foolish servant will incur his wrath.

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