

Speech in the Proverbs

Proverbs 4:24 (ESV)

Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.

Proverbs 6:12 (ESV)

A worthless person, a wicked man,
goes about with crooked speech,

Proverbs 6:16-17 (ESV)

There are six things that the LORD hates,
seven that are an abomination to him:
¹⁷haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood,

Proverbs 8:6-9 (ESV)

Hear, for I will speak noble things,
and from my lips will come what is right,
⁷for my mouth will utter truth;
wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
⁸All the words of my mouth are righteous;
there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.
⁹They are all straight to him who understands,
and right to those who find knowledge.

Proverbs 8:13 (ESV)

The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil.
Pride and arrogance and the way of evil
and perverted speech I hate.

Proverbs 10:19-20 (ESV)

When words are many, transgression is not
lacking,
but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.
²⁰The tongue of the righteous is choice silver;
the heart of the wicked is of little worth.

Proverbs 10:31-32 (ESV)

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom,
but the perverse tongue will be cut off.
³²The lips of the righteous know what is
acceptable,
but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse.

Proverbs 11:9 (ESV)

With his mouth the godless man would destroy
his neighbor,
but by knowledge the righteous are delivered.

Proverbs 12:6 (ESV)

The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood,
but the mouth of the upright delivers them.

Proverbs 12:18-19 (ESV)

There is one whose rash words are like sword
thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
¹⁹Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Proverbs 12:22 (ESV)

Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD,
but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Proverbs 13:3 (ESV)

Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life;
he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Proverbs 15:2 (ESV)

The tongue of the wise commends knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

Proverbs 15:4 (ESV)

A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 15:26 (ESV)

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination
to the LORD,
but gracious words are pure.

Proverbs 16:1 (ESV)

The plans of the heart belong to man,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

Proverbs 16:21 (ESV)

The wise of heart is called discerning,
and sweetness of speech increases
persuasiveness.

Proverbs 16:23-24 (ESV)

The heart of the wise makes his speech
judicious
and adds persuasiveness to his lips.
²⁴Gracious words are like a honeycomb,

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sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Proverbs 16:27-28 (ESV)

A worthless man plots evil,
and his speech is like a scorching fire.
²⁸A dishonest man spreads strife,
and a whisperer separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:4 (ESV)

An evildoer listens to wicked lips,
and a liar gives ear to a mischievous tongue.

Proverbs 17:7 (ESV)

Fine speech is not becoming to a fool;
still less is false speech to a prince.

Proverbs 17:20 (ESV)

A man of crooked heart does not discover good,
and one with a dishonest tongue falls into
calamity.

Proverbs 17:27 (ESV)

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge,
and he who has a cool spirit is a man of
understanding.

Proverbs 18:4 (ESV)

The words of a man's mouth are deep waters;
the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.

Proverbs 18:6-8 (ESV)

A fool's lips walk into a fight,
and his mouth invites a beating.
⁷A fool's mouth is his ruin,
and his lips are a snare to his soul.
⁸The words of a whisperer are like delicious
morsels;
they go down into the inner parts of the body.

Proverbs 18:21 (ESV)

Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Proverbs 19:1 (ESV)

Better is a poor person who walks in his
integrity
than one who is crooked in speech and is a
fool.

Proverbs 21:6 (ESV)

The getting of treasures by a lying tongue
is a fleeting vapor and a snare of death.

Proverbs 21:23 (ESV)

Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue
keeps himself out of trouble.

Proverbs 25:15 (ESV)

With patience a ruler may be persuaded,
and a soft tongue will break a bone.

Proverbs 26:28 (ESV)

A lying tongue hates its victims,
and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Proverbs 28:23 (ESV)

Whoever rebukes a man will afterward find
more favor
than he who flatters with his tongue.

Proverbs 29:19-20 (ESV)

By mere words a servant is not disciplined,
for though he understands, he will not respond.
²⁰Do you see a man who is hasty in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.

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