

# THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON.



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1Love righteousness, ye that be judges of the earth,

**T**hink ye of the Lord <sup>1</sup> with a good mind,

**A**nd in singleness of heart seek ye him;

2Because he is found of them that tempt him not,

**A**nd is manifested to them that do not distrust him.

3For crooked thoughts separate from God;

**A**nd the supreme Power, when it is brought to the proof, <sup>2</sup> putteth to confusion the foolish:

4Because wisdom will not enter into a soul that deviseth evil,

**N**or dwell in a body that is held in pledge by sin.

5For a holy spirit of discipline will flee deceit.

**A**nd will start away from thoughts that are without understanding,

**A**nd will be <sup>3</sup> put to confusion when unrighteousness hath come in.

6For <sup>4</sup> wisdom is a spirit that loveth man,

**A**nd she will not hold a <sup>5</sup> blasphemer guiltless for his lips;

**B**ecause God beareth witness of his reins,

**A**nd is a true overseer of his heart,

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<sup>1</sup>+ 1:1 Gr. in goodness.

<sup>2</sup>+ 1:3 Gr. convicteth.

<sup>3</sup>+ 1:5 Gr. convicted.

<sup>4</sup>+ 1:6 Some authorities read the spirit of wisdom is loving to man.

<sup>5</sup>+ 1:6 Or, reviler

**A** nd a hearer of his tongue:

7Because the spirit of the Lord hath filled <sup>6</sup> the world,

**A** nd that which holdeth all things together hath knowledge of every voice.

8Therefore no man that uttereth unrighteous things shall be unseen;

+ 1:8 Some authorities read Nor indeed. Neither shall Justice, when it convicteth, pass him by.

9For in the midst of his counsels the ungodly shall be searched out;

**A** nd the sound of his words shall come unto the Lord

**T** o bring to conviction his lawless deeds:

10Because there is an ear of jealousy that listeneth to all things,

**A** nd the noise of murmurings is not hid.

11Beware then of unprofitable murmuring,

**A** nd refrain your tongue from backbiting;

**B** ecause no secret utterance shall go on its way void,

**A** nd a mouth that beliieth destroyeth a soul.

12Court not death in the error of your life;

**N** either draw upon yourselves destruction by the works of your hands:

13Because God made not death;

**N** either delighteth he when the living perish:

14For he created all things that they might have being:

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<sup>6</sup>+ 1:7 Gr. the inhabited earth.

A nd <sup>7</sup> the generative powers of the world are healthsome,

A nd there is no poison of destruction in them:

N or hath Hades <sup>8</sup> royal dominion upon earth,

15For righteousness is immortal:

16But ungodly men by their hands and their words called <sup>9</sup> death unto them:

D eeming him a friend they <sup>10</sup> consumed away,

A nd they made a covenant with him,

B ecause they are worthy to be of his portion.

2For they said <sup>11</sup> within themselves, reasoning not aright,

S hort and sorrowful is our life;

A nd there is no healing when a man cometh to his end,

A nd none was ever known that <sup>12</sup> gave release from Hades.

2Because by mere chance were we born,

A nd hereafter we shall be as though we had never been:

B ecause the breath in our nostrils is smoke,

A nd <sup>13</sup> while our heart beateth reason is a spark,

3Which being extinguished, the body shall be turned into ashes,

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<sup>7</sup> + 1:14 Or, all the races of creatures in the world

<sup>8</sup> + 1:14 Or, a royal house

<sup>9</sup> + 1:16 Or, Hades Gr. him.

<sup>10</sup> + 1:16 Or, were consumed with love of him

<sup>11</sup> + 2:1 Or, among

<sup>12</sup> + 2:1 Or, returned out of Hades

<sup>13</sup> + 2:2 Or, reason is a spark kindled by the beating of our heart