



Proverbs on GOVERNMENT

Counsel and sound judgment are mine; I have understanding and power. By me kings reign and rulers

make laws that are just; by me princes govern, and all nobles who rule on earth. (8:14-16) When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices; when the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy. Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed. (11:10-11) For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure. (11:14) The mark of a good leader is loyal followers; leadership is nothing without a following. (14:28 MSG) Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. A king delights in a wise servant, but a shameful servant incurs his wrath. (14:34-35) The lips of a king speak as an oracle, and his mouth should not betray justice. (16:10) Kings detest wrongdoing, for a throne is established through righteousness. Kings take pleasure in honest lips; they value a man who speaks the truth. A king's wrath is a messenger of death, but a wise man will appease it. When a king's face brightens, it means life; his favor is like a rain cloud in spring. (16:12-15) Arrogant lips are unsuited to a fool - how much worse lying lips to a ruler! (17:7) A wicked man accepts a bribe in secret to pervert the course of justice. (17:23) It is not good to punish an innocent man, or to flog officials for their integrity. (17:26) A king's rage is like the roar of a lion, but his favor is like dew on the grass. (19:12) A king's wrath is like the roar of a lion; he who angers him forfeits his life. (20:2) When a king sits on his throne to judge, he winnows out all evil with his eyes. (20:8) Make plans by seeking advice; if you wage war, obtain guidance. (20:18) A wise king winnows out the wicked; he drives the threshing wheel over them. (20:26) Love and faithfulness keep a king safe; through love his throne is made secure. (20:28) The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases. (21:1) The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the LORD. (21:31) When you sit to dine with a ruler, note well what is before you, and put a knife to your throat if you are given to gluttony. Do not crave his delicacies, for that food is deceptive. (23:1-3) for waging war you need guidance, and for victory many advisers. (24:6) Wisdom is too high for a fool; in the assembly at the gate he has nothing to say. (24:7) Remove the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established through righteousness. (25:5) Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence, and do not claim a place among great men; it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here," than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman. (25:6-7) When there is moral rot within a nation, its government topples easily. But with wise and knowledgeable leaders, there is stability. (28:2 NLT) A tyrannical ruler lacks judgment, but he who hates ill-gotten gain will enjoy a long life. (28:16 NIV) When the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding; but when the wicked perish, the righteous thrive. (28:28) When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan. (29:2) By justice a king gives a country stability, but one who is greedy for bribes tears it down. (29:4) If a ruler listens to lies, all his officials become wicked. (29:12) If a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will always be secure. (29:14) The sayings of King Lemuel - an oracle his mother taught him: "O my son, O son of my womb, O son of my vows, do not spend your strength on women, your vigor on those who ruin kings. "It is not for kings, O Lemuel - not for kings to drink wine, not for rulers to crave beer, lest they drink and forget what the law decrees, and deprive all the oppressed of their rights. "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." (31:1-5, 8-9)(NIV)



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