

|35| The chachamim shall inherit kavod, but shame shall be the promotion of kesilim (fools).

4 Hear, ye banim, the musar (instruction, discipline) of an av, and attend to know binah (understanding).

|2| For I give you lekach tov (good doctrine, good instruction), forsake ye not my torah.

|3| For I was ben to avi, tender and yachid (an only child) before immi.

|4| He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine lev retain my words; be shomer over my mitzvot, and live.

|5| Acquire chochmah, acquire binah (understanding); forget it not; neither turn from the words of my peh (mouth).

|6| Forsake her not, and she shall be shomer over thee; love her, and she shall protect thee.

|7| Chochmah is the principal thing; therefore get chochmah, and with all thy getting get binah (understanding).

|8| Exalt her, and she shall promote thee; she shall honor thee with kavod, when thou dost embrace her.

|9| She shall give to thine head a garland of chen; an ateret (crown) of tiferet (glory) shall she present to thee.

|10| Hear, O beni (my son), and receive my sayings; and thy shnot chayyim shall be many.

|11| I have taught thee in the derech chochmah; I have led thee in ma'aglei yosher (right paths).

|12| When thou goest, thy steps shall not be hindered; and when thou runnest, lo tikashel (thou shalt not stumble).

|13| Take firm hold of musar; let her not go; guard her; for she is thy chayyim.

|14| Enter not into the orach resha'im, and go not on the derech ra'im (road of the wicked).

|15| Avoid it, travel al (not) on it, turn from it, and pass on.

|16| For they sleep not, unless they have done evil; and their sheynah (sleep) is robbed, unless they cause some to fall.

|17| For they eat the lechem of resha, and drink the yayin of chamasim (violences).

|18| But the orach tzaddikim (path of the righteous) is as the bright light, that shineth brighter and brighter unto the full day.

|19| The derech resha'im is as deep darkness; they know not at what they stumble.

|20| Beni (my son), attend to my words; incline thine ozen unto my sayings.

|21| Let them not depart from thine eyes; be shomer over them within thine lev.

|22| For they are chayyim unto those that find them, and health to all their basar.

|23| Set watch over and guard thy lev with all diligence; for out of it are the totze'ot chayyim (issues, wellsprings of life *cf Mk 7:20-23*).

|24| Put away from thee a deceitful peh (mouth), and perverse sfatayim (lips) put far from thee.

|25| Let thine eynayim look straight forward, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

|26| Ponder the ma'agal (path) of thy raglayim, and let all thy drakhim be firm.

|27| Turn not to the right hand nor to the left; remove thy regel from rah

[*T.N. Everyone in life has two paths to choose from just as Moshiach Tzidkeinu spoke of two gates, a wide one crowded with traffic and leading to destruction, and another one*

found by few but leading to life and redemption—Mt 7:13-14].

5 Beni (my son), attend unto my chochmah, and bow thine ozen to my tevunah (understanding);

|2| That thou mayest regard mezimah (discretion), and that thy sfatayim (lips) may keep da'as (knowledge).

|3| For the sfatayim (lips) of a zarah (strange woman) drip as a honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than shemen (olive oil);

|4| But her end is marah (bitter) as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged cherev.

|5| Her raglayim go down to mavet; her steps lead to Sheol.

|6| Lest thou shouldest compare [*hers*] to the orach chayyim, her ma'agalot (paths) are crooked, that thou canst not know them.

|7| Hear me now therefore, O ye banim, and turn not from the words of my peh (mouth).

|8| Remove thy derech far from her, and come not near the petach (doorway) of her bais;

|9| Lest thou give thine hod (strength) unto others, and thy shanim unto the cruel one;

|10| Lest zarim (strangers) be filled with thy koach; and thy toilings be in the bais nochri;

|11| And thou mourn at the acharit (last, latter end, future), when thy basar and thy body are consumed,

|12| And say, How have I hated musar, and my lev spurned tokhachat (reproof);

|13| And have not obeyed the voice of my morim (teachers), nor inclined mine ear to the ones who were my melamed!

|14| I was at the brink of all rah (evil, ruin) in the midst of the kahal (congregation) and edah (assembly).

|15| Drink mayim out of thine own bor (cistern), and running waters out of thine own well.