

Proverbs Series

Lesson #028

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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Prov. 14:12, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

Proverbs

Guide for Skillful Living

DEATH

LIFE

**Answering the Fool
Selected Proverbs**

Prov. 18:20, “A man’s stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; From the produce of his lips he shall be filled.

Prov. 18:21, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

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his mouth;
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Fruit, 20a

Production, 20b

**Production in terms of
death and life, 21a**

Fruit, 21b

Prov. 15:23,

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And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!”

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**qal imperf 2 masc
sing jussive**

**“to answer; to give
the correct or
biblical answer”**

Prov. 15:23,

**“A man has joy
by the **answer** of his mouth,
And a **word spoken** in due season,
how good it is!”**

Prov. 26:4,

**“Do not answer a fool according to his folly,
Lest you also be like him.**

Prov. 26:5,

**“Answer a fool according to his folly,
Lest he be wise in his own eyes.”**

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the correct or
biblical answer”**

1 Pet. 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

1 Pet. 3:16, “having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

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ἀπολογία; *apologia* a verbal defense, a legal defense, an answer explaining why something has been said or done.

Reductio ad absurdum

Reduce to the absurd

A form of logic which refutes an assertion or proposition by showing that if applied consistently the end result would be a ridiculous situation.

Matt. 12:25, “But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.

Matt. 12:26, “ ‘If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

Matt. 12:27, “ ‘And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges.’ ”

- 1. If Satan were divided against himself, his kingdom would be ruined.**
- 2. Satan's kingdom, however, is not ruined (since demonic activity continues). To think otherwise is absurd.**
- 3. Therefore, (a) Satan does not drive out Satan.**
- 4. Therefore, (b) Jesus cannot free people from Satan by satanic power.**

Prov. 16:21,

“The wise in heart will be called prudent,

And sweetness of the lips increases learning.

Prov. 16:22,

“Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it.

But the correction of fools is folly.”

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***בִּיָּן (bîn) understand, consider,
perceive, prudent, regard.***

Prov. 10:11, “The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.”

Prov. 13:14, “The law of the wise is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.”

Prov. 14:27, “The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.”

John 4:14, “but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”