# The ***Power*** and ***Peril*** of **Words**
## **Wisdom** and **Warnings** for the **New Year**

1. The **fear** of **the LORD** is the ***beginning*** of **knowledge**;
**fools** despise **wisdom** and **instruction**.
(Proverbs 1:7)

2. **My son,** do **not forget my teaching**,
but let your **heart *keep* my commandments;**
for **length of days** and **years of *life*** and ***peace*** they will ***add*** to you.

Do **not** let **kindness** and **truth** leave you;
***bind* them** around your **neck,**
***write* them** on the **tablet** of your **heart**.

So you will find **favor** and **good repute**
in the **sight** of **God** and **man.**
(Proverbs 3:1-4)

3. **Death** and **life** are in the ***power*** of the **tongue**,
and those who **love it** will eat its **fruit.**
(Proverbs 18:21)

4. A **gentle answer** turns away **wrath,**
but a **harsh word** stirs up **anger.**

The **tongue** of the ***wise*** makes **knowledge *acceptable***,
but the **mouth** of ***fools*** spouts **folly**.
(Proverbs 15:1-2)

5. The **heart** of the **righteous ponders** *how to answer*,
but the **mouth** of the **wicked *pours*** out **evil things**.
(Proverbs 15:28)

6. **Anxiety** in the **heart** of a man ***weighs* it down**,
but a **good word** makes it ***glad***.
(Proverbs 12:25)

7. A ***soothing* tongue** is a **tree of life**,
but ***perversion*** in it **crushes the spirit**.
(Proverbs 15:4)

8. A **fool** does ***not*** delight in **understanding**,
but only in **revealing** his **own mind**.
(Proverbs 18:2)

9. He who **gives** an **answer *before*** he **hears**,
it is **folly** and **shame** to him. (Proverbs 18:13)
10. The one who ***guards* his mouth preserves** his **life**;
the one who ***opens*** wide his **lips** comes to **ruin**.
(Proverbs 13:3)

. 11. When there are ***many*** **words, transgression is unavoidable**,
but he who **restrains** his lips is **wise.** (Proverbs 10:19)

12. There is one who **speaks *rashly*** like the **thrusts of a sword**,
but the **tongue** of the **wise** brings **healing**.
(Proverbs 12:18)

13. The **words** of a **whisperer** are like ***dainty*** **morsels**,
and they **go down** into the **innermost parts** of the **body.**
(Proverbs 18:8)

14. With *his* **mouth** the **godless** man ***destroys*** his **neighbor**,
but through **knowledge** the **righteous** will be ***delivered*.**
(Proverbs 11:9)

15. A **stone** is ***heavy*** and the **sand *weighty,***
but the **provocation** of a **fool** is ***heavier*** than **both** of them.
(Proverbs 27:3)

16. A **man's *discretion*** makes him ***slow* to anger,**
and it is **his glory** to ***overlook* a transgression**.
(Proverbs 19:11)

17. *Like* a **club** and a **sword** and a **sharp arrow**
Is a **man** who **bears false witness** against his **neighbor.**
(Proverbs 25:18)

18. **Faithful** are the ***wounds*** of a **friend**,
but **deceitful** are the ***kisses*** of an **enemy**.
(Proverbs 27:6)

19. *This* you know, my **beloved brethren**.
But everyone must be ***quick* to hear**,
***slow* to speak** *and* ***slow* to anger**;
for the **anger** of **man** does **not** achieve the **righteousness** of **God.**
(James 1:19-20))

## **Yiddish Proverbs**

20. Az oyf dem **hartsn** iz **biter**, helft nisht in **moyl** keyn tsuker.

"If your **heart** is **bitter**, **sugar** in the **mouth** *won't* help you."

21. A **beyze tsung** iz erger fun a **shlekhter hant**

"A ***nasty* tongue** is worse than a ***wicked* hand**."

# Closing Comments