

# Communication: Perilous Paradoxes

God's Revolutionary Wisdom (Part 49)

Proverbs 10:18-21

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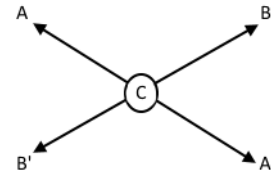
Copperfield Bible Church

<sup>18</sup> He who conceals hatred *has* deceptive lips,<sup>1</sup>  
And he who puts out slander — he is stupid!  
<sup>19</sup> In multitude of words transgression does not  
cease,  
But he who holds back his lips is intelligent.

<sup>20</sup> Choice silver, the tongue of the righteous;  
The heart of wicked *men*, worth little.  
<sup>21</sup> The lips of the righteous *man* shepherd many,  
But dense *men*, for lack of brains,<sup>2</sup> die.

## Introduction to Proverbs 10:18-32: chiasm (Greek letter *chi* = X)

- A: Speech (vv. 18–21)
- B: Security (vv. 22–25)
- C: Sloth (v. 26)
- B': Security (vv. 27–30)
- A': Speech (vv. 31–32)



## Introduction to verses 18-21:

### I. \_\_\_\_\_ ealing and \_\_\_\_\_ ealing Can Both \_\_\_\_\_ (10:18)

#### A. Malice Buried (v. 18a)

1. Examples
  - a. Gen. 3:1, 4-5; cf. John 8:44
  - b. Gen. 4:8
  - c. Luke 20:20-21
  - d. Matt. 26:49
2. The problems

#### B. Malice B\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18b)

1. Paradox
2. What is slander?
3. Why is a slanderer “stupid”?

#### C. Wisdom Takeaway

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<sup>1</sup> Literally “lips of deception.”

<sup>2</sup> Literally “by lacking of heart.”

**II. Quality Probably \_\_\_\_\_ Quality (10:19)**

**A. Lots of Words, Lots of Transgression (v. 19a)**

**B. Few Words, Lots of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 19b)**

Proverbs 15:28

Proverbs 17:27

James 1:19

James 3:1–2

**C. Wisdom Takeaway**

**III. Topsy-Turvy \_\_\_\_\_ (10:20)**

**A. Minor Organ, Major Value (v. 20a)**

12:18b

15:2a

15:4 (HCSB)

18:21

**B. Major Organ, Minor Value (v. 20b)**

**C. Wisdom Takeaway**

**IV. \_\_\_\_\_ing Many, or \_\_\_\_\_ing to Death (10:21)**

**A. Shepherd's Lips (v. 21a)**

**B. Pauper's Heart (v. 21b)**

**C. Wisdom Takeaway**