

# 5 April

Numbers 20|21, Proverbs 15, Ephesians 1|2



## **A wholesome tongue is a tree of life**

When the Israelites need e water Moses was asked to, “speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water” (N 20:8). But he smote the rock. When the Israelites sought to pass by Edom, Edom replied harshly, “Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword” (N 20:18). But “to compass the land of Edom” was hard “and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way” (N 21:4). Harsh words bring hardship. But at Beer a song of joy brings refreshment, “LORD spake unto Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water. Then Israel sang this song, Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it” (N 21:16-17).

As the Israelites found, “A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger” (P15:1). “A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit” (P15:4). The afflicted sees evil but “he that is of a merry heart has a continual feast” (P15:15). “A man has joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it! (P15:23). “The heart of the righteous studies to answer: but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things” (P15:28) “The light of the eyes rejoices the heart: and a good report makes the bones fat” (P15:30).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, “as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love” (E1:4) “Wherein he has abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence” (E1:8) That “the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, (E1:17-8). The words being a tree of life.