

## **What Kind of Fool? Options from the Book of Proverbs**

### **Peti (simple; gullible)**

1:4 to teach shrewdness to the simple

1:32 Waywardness kills the simple and the complacency of fools destroys them.

8:5 O simple ones, learn prudence; acquire intelligence you who lack it.

14:15 The simple believe everything. The clever consider their steps.

### **Kesil (innately stupid)**

3:35 The wise inherit honor, stubborn fools, disgrace.

10:18 Lying lips conceal hatred and whoever utters slander is a fool.

14:16 The wise are cautious and turn away from evil, but the fool throws off restraint and is careless.

17:12 Better to meet a she-bear robbed of its cubs than to confront a fool immersed in folly.

18:2 A fool takes no pleasure in understanding but only in expressing personal opinion.

18:6 A fool's lips bring strife and a fool's mouth invites a flogging.

18:7 The mouths of fools are their ruin; Their lips are a snare to themselves.

26:4 Do not answer fools according to their folly or you will be a fool yourself.

26:5 Answer fools according to their folly or they will be wise in their own eyes.

26:11 Like a dog that returns to its vomit is a fool who reverts to his folly.

26:12 Do you see persons wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for fools than for them.

29:11 A fool gives full vent to anger, but the wise quietly holds it back.

### **Ewil (obstinate fool)**

1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, fools despise wisdom and instruction.

10:21 The lips of the wise feed many, but fools die for lack of sense.

14:9 Fools mock at the guilt offering, but the upright enjoy God's favor.

15:5 A fool despises a parent's instruction, but the one who heeds admonition is prudent.

16:22 Wisdom is a fountain of life to one who has it, but folly is the punishment of fools.

17:28 Even fools who keep silent are considered wise; when they close their lips, they are deemed intelligent.

20:3 It is honorable to refrain from strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.

24:7 Wisdom is too high for fools. In the gate they do not open their mouths.

**Ba'ar (crude, brutish person)**

12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but those who hate to be rebuked are stupid.

**Nabal (brutal, evil person)**

30:22 Under three things the earth trembles; under four it cannot bear up  
A slave when he becomes king and a fool when glutted with food.

30:32 If you have been foolish, exalting yourself, or if you have been devising evil, put your hand on your mouth.

**Les (scoffer)**

3:34 Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he shows favor.

9:7 Whoever corrects a scoffer wins abuse; whoever rebukes the wicked gets hurt.

9:8 A scoffer who is rebuked will only hate you, the wise, when rebuked, will love you.

13:20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools suffers harm.

14:6 A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain, but knowledge is easy for one who understands.

14:7 Leave the presence of a fool, for there you do not find words of wisdom

15:12 Scoffers do not like to be rebuked. They will not go to the wise.

19:25 Strike a scoffer and the simple will learn prudence.

21:24 The proud, haughty person named "Scoffer" acts with arrogant pride.

22:10 Drive out a scoffer and strife goes out. Quarreling and abuse will cease.

24:9 The devising of folly is sin and the scoffer is an abomination to all.

29:8 Scoffers set a city aflame but the wise turn away wrath.