This final section of Proverbs 26 was given to:
1) Warn people against <u>being</u> a fraud.
2) Help people <u>identify</u> a fraud.
3) Instruct people as to how to <u>relate</u> to a fraud.
4) Warn the fraud about future <u>judgment</u>.

WISE PEOPLE WILL NOT FRAUDULENTLY PROJECT WITH THEIR <u>SPEECH</u> WHAT THEY ARE NOT IN THEIR <u>HEARTS</u> FOR THIS WILL BRING THE JUDG-MENT OF GOD.

Wise people are real and truthful and not a wicked, false cover-up.

WISDOM POINT #1 – One who covers up his wicked heart with his speech is a <u>cheap</u> imitation. **26:23**

"Burning lips" are lips anxious to burn, to flame and to fire. "Dross" is silver that has not been refined and is not pure. To overlay an earthen vessel with dross would give it a silver glazed look that would appear expensive, but be a cheap imitation. So it is with one who uses flaming speech to cover up a wicked heart. This person is a cheap imitation.

WISDOM POINT #2 – One who has a fraudulent heart will attempt to <u>disguise</u> himself with his speech. **26:24**

The hateful, deceitful person will not typically advertise that he is your fraudulent enemy. Frauds typically hide and disguise their hatred, especially with their speech.

WISDOM POINT #3 – One who is a fraud is not to be <u>believed</u>. **26:25**

The word "believe" means don't trust him or place your confidence in him no matter what he says because his heart is completely filled with abominable things.

WISDOM POINT #4 – One who is a fraud, will eventually be <u>exposed</u>. **26:26**

God will eventually expose a phony for all people to see.

WISDOM POINT #5 – One who is a fraud, will eventually be <u>destroyed</u>. **26:27**

This image of digging a pit and falling into it or rolling a stone back on yourself is the idea of having the exact same type of evil return to the person (Ps. 7:15-16; 9:15-16; 56:6; Eccl. 10:8).

WISDOM POINT #6 – One who is a fraud, will never be your <u>friend</u>. **26:28**

A fraud ruins relationships and friendships. One Puritan writer said, "Be as much troubled by unjust praises as by unjust slander."