

**Proverbs 18:16** A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

מָתָן אָדָם יַרְחִיב לוֹ וּלְפָנָי גְּדֹלִים יִנְחֵנוּ

ma-tan a-dam yar-khiv lo v'-lip-nei g'-do-lim yan-khe-nu

Heb	Trans	KJV	#	Meaning (Gesenius)
מָתָן	ma-tan	gift  <b>This is not his talent or his calling!</b>	4976	A gift,  Proverbs 19:6 Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man <i>is</i> a friend to him that giveth <b>gifts</b> .  Root (na-an) To give, to cause to receive.
אָדָם	a-dam	A man's	120	Man (perhaps so called from the two races of men; one red, ruddy, which we call white, the other black. But both these races are sprung from Adam.  To denote men, the human race.
יַרְחִיב	yar-khiv	maketh room	7337	To be or become wide, spacious. Used of chambers which are made wide, used of a mouth opened wide. Metaph. Of a heart which is expanded with joy.
לוֹ	lo			Pg. 422 (Gesenius) It denotes prop. Motion, or at least direction, and turning towards something.  To, towards, unto
וּלְפָנָי	v'-lip-nei	and him before	6440	The face (prop. The part turned towards anyone).  Root (pa-nah) To turn; to turn oneself, to turn to, or towards. To behold, to turn the eyes.
גְּדֹלִים	g'-do-lim	great men	1419	Great, of magnitude and extent, large; of number and multitude, Gen. 29:7, "as yet the day is great, " i.e. there is yet much day left. Specially elder, eldest. Great of power, nobility, wealth, powerful.
יִנְחֵנוּ	yan-khe-nu	for him / bringeth	5148	To lead; often used of God as governing men. To lead forth (as troops).  To lead back, "Deuteronomy 32:12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and <i>there</i> was no strange god with him."

TRANSLATION:

Gifts that are given by a man expands his way, makes it wide, and spacious and leads him before the face of the multitude.

A man's gift eases his way and gives him access to the great (JSB).

Note from the JSB: This proverb just gives practical advice. While bribes to subvert justice are condemned (17-23); Deut. 10:17; 16.19), other sorts of gifts and payments (to gain access to an official, for example) are acceptable (Pro. 18:16; 21.14).

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