

Proverbs 07 - The Lure of the Harlot

II. Solomon's 12 lessons of wisdom to his son(s) (Prov 1:8—9:18)

(11) Lesson 11: Avoid the adulterous woman and embrace the woman of wisdom (Prov 7:1— 8:31)

(A) Avoid the adulteress (7:1-27)

(a) Plea for the acquisition of wisdom (7:1-5)

(b) The adulteress personified (7:6-23)

(i) Naïve victim (7:6-9)

(ii) Adulteress's traits (7:10-12)

(iii) Adulteress's methods (7:13-23)

(c) Concluding exhortation (7:24-27)

(i) Exhortation (7:24-25)

(ii) Consequences that the exhortation is predicated upon (7:26-27)

Proverbs 7

(11) Lesson 11: Avoid the adulterous woman and embrace the woman of wisdom (Prov 7:1— 8:31)

(A) Avoid the adulteress (7:1-27)

(a) Plea for the acquisition of wisdom (7:1-5)

1 My son, keep my words And treasure my commandments within you.

1 My son, keep my words And treasure my commandments within you.

1 My son, guard what I say and treasure my commands.

1 My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

2 Keep my commandments and live, And my teaching as the apple of your eye.

2 Keep my commandments and live, And my teaching as the apple of your eye.

2 Keep my commands and you'll live. Guard my teaching as you do your eyesight.

2 Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

3 Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart.

3 Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart.

3 Strap them to your fingers and engrave them on the tablet of your heart.

3 Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart.

4 Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," And call understanding *your* intimate friend,

4 Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," And call understanding *your* intimate friend;
4 Say to wisdom, "You're my sister!" and call understanding your close relative,
4 Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman:

5 So that they may keep you from an adulteress, From the foreigner who flatters with her words.

5 That they may keep you from an adulteress, From the foreigner who flatters with her words.

5 so they can keep you from an adulterous woman, from the immoral woman with her seductive words.

5 That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words.

(b) The adulteress personified (7:6-23)

(i) Naïve victim (7:6-9)

6 For at the window of my house I looked out through my lattice,

6 For at the window of my house I looked out through my lattice,

6 For from a window in my house I peered through the lattice work,

6 For at the window of my house I looked through my casement,

7 And I saw among the naive, *And* discerned among the youths A young man lacking sense,

7 And I saw among the naive, *And* discerned among the youths A young man lacking sense,

7 and I noticed among the naïve— that is, I discerned among the youths— a senseless young man.

7 And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,

8 Passing through the street near her corner; And he walks along the way to her house,

8 Passing through the street near her corner; And he takes the way to her house,

8 Proceeding down the street near her corner, he makes his way toward her house

8 Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

9 In the twilight, in the evening, In the middle of the night and the darkness.

9 In the twilight, in the evening, In the middle of the night and *in* the darkness.

9 at twilight, during the evening, even during the darkest part of the night.

9 In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:

(ii) Adulteress's traits (7:10-12)

10 And behold, a woman *comes* to meet him, Dressed as a prostitute and cunning of heart.

10 And behold, a woman *comes* to meet him, Dressed as a harlot and cunning of heart.

10 Look! A woman makes her way to meet him, dressed as a prostitute and intending to entrap him.

10 And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart.

11 She is boisterous and rebellious, Her feet do not remain at home;

11 She is boisterous and rebellious, Her feet do not remain at home;

11 She is brazen and defiant— her feet don't remain at home.

11 (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house:

12 *She is* now in the streets, now in the public squares, And lurks by every corner.

12 *She is* now in the streets, now in the squares, And lurks by every corner.

12 Now she is in the street, now in the plazas, she lurks near every corner.

12 Now is she without, now in the streets, and lies in wait at every corner.)

(iii) Adulteress's methods (7:13-23)

13 So she seizes him and kisses him, And with a brazen face she says to him:

13 So she seizes him and kisses him And with a brazen face she says to him:

13 So she grabs hold of him and kisses him, with a brazen face she speaks to him,

13 So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him,

14 "I was due to offer peace offerings; Today I have paid my vows.

14 "I was due to offer peace offerings; Today I have paid my vows.

14 "I have given my peace offerings, and today I fulfilled my vows.

14 I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows.

15 "Therefore I have come out to meet you, To seek your presence diligently, and I have found you.

15 "Therefore I have come out to meet you, To seek your presence earnestly, and I have found you.

15 Therefore, I've come out to meet you, I've looked just for you, and I found you!

15 Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee.

16 "I have spread my couch with coverings, With colored linens of Egypt.

16 "I have spread my couch with coverings, With colored linens of Egypt.

16 I've decorated my bed with new coverings— embroidered linen from Egypt.

16 I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt.

17 "I have sprinkled my bed With myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

17 "I have sprinkled my bed With myrrh, aloes and cinnamon.

17 I've perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

18 "Come, let's drink our fill of love until morning; Let's delight ourselves with caresses.

18 "Come, let us drink our fill of love until morning; Let us delight ourselves with caresses.

18 Come, let's make love until dawn; let's comfort ourselves with love,

18 Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves.

19 "For my husband is not at home; He has gone on a long journey.

19 "For my husband is not at home, He has gone on a long journey;

19 because my husband isn't home. He left on a long trip.

19 For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey:

20 "He has taken a bag of money with him. At the full moon he will come home."

20 He has taken a bag of money with him, At the full moon he will come home."

20 He took a fist full of cash and he'll return home in a month."

20 He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed.

21 With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him.

21 With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him.

21 She leads him astray with great persuasion; with flattering lips she seduces him.

21 With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

22 Suddenly he follows her As an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as *one* walks in ankle bracelets to the discipline of a fool,

22 Suddenly he follows her As an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as *one in* fetters to the discipline of a fool,

22 All of a sudden he follows her like an ox fit for slaughter or like a fool fit for a trap

22 He goes after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;

23 Until an arrow pierces through his liver; As a bird hurries to the snare, So he does not know that it *will cost him* his life.

23 Until an arrow pierces through his liver; As a bird hastens to the snare, So he does not know that it *will cost him* his life.

23 until an arrow pierces his liver. As a bird darts into a snare, he doesn't realize his fatal decision.

23 Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life.

(c) Concluding exhortation (7:24-27)

(i) Exhortation (7:24-25)

24 Now therefore, *my sons*, listen to me, And pay attention to the words of my mouth.

24 Now therefore, *my sons*, listen to me, And pay attention to the words of my mouth.

24 So listen to me, *my sons*, and pay attention to what I have to say.

24 Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth.

25 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths.

25 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths.

25 Don't be led astray by her lifestyle, and don't imitate her behavior.

25 Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

(ii) Consequences that the exhortation is predicated upon (7:26-27)

26 For many are the victims she has brought to ruin, And numerous are all those slaughtered by her.

26 For many are the victims she has cast down, And numerous are all her slain.

26 For many are the victims whom she has conquered, and many are her slain.

26 For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her.

27 Her house is the way to Sheol, Descending to the chambers of death.

27 Her house is the way to Sheol, Descending to the chambers of death.

27 Her house leads to Sheol, descending to death's catacombs.

27 Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.