

## Proverbs Chapter 5

**Proverbs 5:1-2 "My son, attend unto my wisdom, [and] bow thine ear to my understanding:" "That thou mayest regard discretion, and [that] thy lips may keep knowledge."**

We see here again, instructions to stay wise to the things of God. The wise father marshals all the essential terms to sum up his call to wisdom.

We will see in this chapter the path we should take. Marriage will be spoken of as honorable and adultery of all kinds will be condemned.

**Proverbs 5:3 "For the lips of a strange woman drop [as] a honeycomb, and her mouth [is] smoother than oil:"**

“Lips ... Mouth”: Seduction begins with deceptive flattery. Lips of honey should be part of true love in marriage.

**Proverbs 5:4-5 "But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword." "Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell."**

Possibly a word we might understand a little better than "strange" woman would be a loose, sinful woman. This woman is forbidden fruit making her more mysterious and inviting to the young man. Prostitutes are out to allure the young men and sometimes the older, as well. They are dressed in very few clothes so as to reveal their bodies. Their lips are painted and they are trained to allure the weak men of the world. A woman like this has no future. Bitterness, sickness, early death, and then hell is what she has to look forward to. The two-edged sword is the Bible she should have heeded.

The future of tasting her lips is like “wormwood”, a symbol of suffering, and a “sword,” the symbol of death and hell. "Wormwood" means bad water.

**Proverbs 5:6 "Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, [that] thou canst not know [them]."**

This woman is unstable in all her ways. Don't get involved with her; she will not be faithful to you. In most cities, her profession is against the law.

Her steps willfully and predictably stagger here and there as she has no concern for the abyss ahead.

Verses 7-14 describe the high price of infidelity. The focus here is on the guilty suffering of the one who yields to lust rather than obeying God's law. Contrast the proper response to such temptation in the case of Joseph.

**Proverbs 5:7 "Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth."**

Here again, the penman is saying take special heed to this, ye young men.

**Proverbs 5:8 "Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:"**

Stay away from evil women like this. Don't even go near her house. She will bring nothing but disappointment. Stay honorable. If you were to get involved with her, you would lead an unhappy life.

**Proverbs 5:9-10 "Lest thou give thine honor unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:"  
"Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labors [be] in the house of a stranger;"**

There is no lasting happiness to be found with this type of woman. This is speaking of spending hard earned money on a prostitute and then getting some terrible disease in the process. In our time, people are dying everywhere from diseases caused by adultery. In many cases, there is no cure.

**Proverbs 5:11 "And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,"**

This could be a reference to venereal disease, or to the natural end of life. At that point, filled with an irreversible regret, the ruined sinner vainly laments his neglect of warning and his sad disgrace.

**Proverbs 5:12-13 "And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;"  
"And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!"**

Now that it is too late to turn back, we see regret that he did not take heed to the warning given. We see regret by this man that he rebelled against instruction. He did not let his teacher instruct him, so he had the cruel teacher of experience. He now knows that he made a terrible mistake not listening.

**Proverbs 5:14 "I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly."**

A most painful loss in such a situation is public disgrace in the community. There can be public confession, discipline, and forgiveness, but not restoration to one's former place of honor and service (see 6:33).

Even though training and instruction in righteousness had been offered this individual, he had rejected it. One sin leads to another, and we see this person falling into more and worse sins until their last state is one of total inability to stop sinning. He had no conscience.

**Proverbs 5:15 "Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well."**

Using the imagery of water, the joy of a faithful marriage is contrasted with the disaster of infidelity. "Cistern and well" refer to the wife from whom the husband is to draw all his satisfying refreshment, sexually and affectionately.

**Proverbs 5:16-17 "Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, [and] rivers of waters in the streets." "Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee."**

"Fountains ... streams": The euphemism refers to the male procreation capacity with the idea of the foolish as a fountain scattering precious water, a picture of the wastefulness of sexual promiscuity.

The result of such indiscriminate sin is called "streams of waters in the street," a graphic description of the illegitimate street children of harlotry. Rather, says Solomon, "let them be only your own" and not the children of such immoral strangers.

In short, stay at home and enjoy the things that God has provided for you and your family. Don't go looking for greener grass.

**Proverbs 5:18 "Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth."**

These fountains of living waters (in verses 16, 17, and 18), are speaking of families which are produced by married couples who are happy with each other, always.

"Fountain .... Blessed". God offers to bless male procreation when it is confined to one's wife. It should be noted that, in spite of the sinful polygamy of David and Solomon, as well as the disastrous polygamy of Rehoboam, the instruction here identifies God's ideal as one wife from youth on.

(Verse 18), says take another look at the "wife of thy youth". You loved her then, love her now. The two of you are one flesh.

**Proverbs 5:19 "[Let her be as] the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love."**

The hind (doe), has graceful beauty in her face and form and is often used in the poetry of bible times for the beauty of a woman. Breasts are an imagery of affection. This can be seen in The Song of Solomon.

There has been a terrible cancer of sin in our society the last few years. That is people who are living together without the benefit of marriage. This is not only sin, but sin that involves the temple of the Holy Ghost of God. We are the temple of the Holy Ghost. Some way God will stop this. This is not His plan for man and woman. God made one man for one woman, and they two become one flesh; not for a few days but for a lifetime together on this earth.

The family on earth is a type and shadow of the eternal family in heaven. Jesus is the groom, and all believers are the bride of Christ. In heaven, there is a heavenly Father. For marriage to work here on the earth there has to be a heavenly Father who we center our marriage around. God can give you a special love for your wife or husband, even if you have been married over 50 years.

Teach us to love our mate, Dear Lord. Show us the difference in love and lust. Love is of the spirit, but lust is of the flesh. Our prayer should be, "Lord, build our marriage on the solid Rock that cannot crumble when the storms of life come."

**Proverbs 5:20 "And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?"**

The answer to that is lust of the flesh. Such behavior is presented as having no benefit; thus, to justify such folly is senseless.

**Proverbs 5:21 "For the ways of man [are] before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings."**

You cannot hide from God. He knows every move you make. He even knows the desires of your heart. God thinks about (ponders), all the ways of man. In mercy, the Lord withholds immediate judgment, allowing a sinner time to repent or to be caught in his own sin.

There is a song called "The All Seeing Eye". God is that all Seeing Eye. You cannot keep any secrets from Him. There is a record being kept, and someday the books will be opened. If we have lived in sin, we shall be ashamed to stand before God.

**Proverbs 5:22 "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins."**

We see here, that sin gets worse as time goes on. A person caught up in this type of life will tie their own selves up in this sin. Adultery seems to be especially bad to the Lord. This sin of adultery, which also includes homosexual and lesbian acts, carries its own special punishment with it. (Verse 23), tells the awful end of this type of person.

**Proverbs 5:23 "He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray."**

Unless this type of sin is repented of and turned away from totally, the end of this person is such it would have been better had they never lived. Destruction lies ahead.

## Proverbs Chapter 5 Questions

1. What is condemned in this lesson?
2. The lips of a \_\_\_\_\_ drop as honeycomb.
3. The bitter end of this woman is compared to what?
4. What does it mean?
5. Where is her destination?
6. What makes this woman inviting to the young men?
7. What tells us this woman is unstable?
8. Why is it so important to move thyself away from her door?
9. What will happen to your wealth if you follow this type of woman?
10. In verse 12, he is feeling what about his life?
11. In this case, what is the cruel teacher?
12. What does verse 14 mean about being in all evil?
13. What does the fact that he was in the congregation tell us?
14. Drink waters where?
15. Who is the man to rejoice with?
16. Whose love should he be ravished with?
17. What is one cancer of sin in our society today?
18. When we are involved in body sin, who do we include in our sin?
19. Love is of the \_\_\_\_\_.
20. Lust is of the \_\_\_\_\_.
21. Who knows every sin we commit, even if we feel we are hidden?
22. If we have sinned and not repented, what shall we feel when we stand before God?

23. What terrible end comes to this sinner in verse 23?