

PROVERBS

THE WISE MAN AND SEXUALITY #2

Marc Graham, Asst. Pastor, Calvary Bible Church

I. INTRODUCTION:

A. Remember the goal: Maintaining Discretion (a plan of action for maintaining purity).

II. SEXUAL RELATIONS ARE NOT TO BE SHARED WITH STRANGERS.

A. The “stranger” (Prov. 5:17) is the seeking of sexual gratification with others outside of the context of marriage (more to be said about this in a moment).

Prov. 5:15---*Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well.*

[In the context here, your own “cistern” or “well” refers to your own wife (spouse). The drinking of water brings satisfaction to a thirsty man. Thus, the verse is saying that sexual satisfaction may be sought only in the marriage relationship with your own spouse].

Prov. 5:16---*Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares?*

[This is referring to going everywhere but where you are supposed to for sexual gratification. It is a graphic passage using the poetic language of “springs” and “streams” to refer to male sexual climax. This is not unheard of for the Scripture to be this direct concerning sexual matters (see an example of such in Genesis 38:8-9).

Prov. 5:17---*Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers.*

[The wise man is to be self-controlled in the area of sexuality. He is not to be driven by sexual impulse to copulate every chance he gets anywhere he gets the opportunity. He is to not share his sexuality with

“strangers.” The stranger refers to anyone who is not his spouse. There is a sense that a husband and wife share an intimacy that they share with no one else in the world (Genesis 2:24). This intimacy is for them, alone, and not to be shared with others. In that sense, everyone else is a stranger].

III. WHERE IS THE RIGHTEOUS PLACE TO FIND SEXUAL SATISFACTION? MARRIAGE, ALONE!

Prov. 5:18---*May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice with the wife of your youth.*

[The “fountain” again refers to the husbands sexual climax. The sperm transmitted in this creates offspring. This is the meaning of “may your fountain be blessed.” The blessing is children.---Further, this verse teaches that sexual relations in marriage are not merely for reproduction (as Catholicism has historically taught), but also for “rejoicing” with your wife. In other words, sex in marriage is to be enjoyed. It is OK for a husband and wife to “have fun” in sex. When sex is done in the godly context of marriage, it is to be enthusiastically and regularly engaged in and it is to give pleasure to both spouses].

Prov. 5:19---*A loving doe, a graceful deer---may her breasts satisfy you always. May you ever be captivated by her love.*

[“A loving doe, a graceful deer” this is a beautiful poetic description of femininity. Women are beautiful and graceful creatures. Here is a command to enjoy and be satisfied in the wife’s femininity, sexually.

The Hebrew root word for “captivated” literally meant “to stray or be misled.” It came to be used of being “intoxicated.” The idea is to be so enraptured by something that you are passionately drawn to it. The King James Version translates the word as “ravished.” This paints a picture of the wonderful possibilities of sex in marriage. Here with his wife the husband may find great sexual fulfillment with absolutely “no guilt.” He cannot find this anywhere else. To forsake his wife for another is like leaving Outback Steakhouse to eat at the garbage can behind McDonald’s].

Prov. 5:20---*Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress?*

Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife?

[This is a good question. When the possibilities of verse 19 are considered, why in the world would one throw away such a relationship. To pursue sex outside of marriage is to open the door to a life of misery, guilt, and enslavement to the cruel master, Lust. It makes no sense.---Yet notice the warning here. The adulteress *can* captivate you? You can become intoxicated with lust. You can lose your head and become enslaved to misery.

IV. A SOBER WARNING.

Prov. 5:21---*For a man's ways are in full view of the Lord, and He examines all his paths.*

[Sexual sin thrives on secrecy. Yet a sober reminder is given. Anytime sex is engaged in there are three in the room, not just two. As the two sexual partners satisfy their passions, God is right there watching. It is done in full view of the Lord. God examines all a man's paths. When God's plan for sex in marriage is followed, God is pleased and will bless it. When it is not followed, God will judge adulterers and fornicators (Heb. 13:4). The sin cannot be concealed from the Lord (see Psalm 139:11-12)].

Prov. 5:22---*The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.*

[Once lust is admitted into a life, it takes tenacious hold. It is a war to rid the heart of lust. Repetition of sin breeds habit patterns and enslavement. It can get so ingrained in the human heart that it literally binds a person like being tied up with ropes. One struggles and struggles and just can't seem to break free of the grasp of sin. What a miserable existence.]

Prov. 5:23---*He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.*

[How did a man get in such a pitiful state? Lack of discipline and his own "folly" (foolishness). Remember Proverbs 1:7---it is the fool who despises wisdom and discipline. Also remember that the goal of this teaching in Proverbs is to help one "attain wisdom and discipline" (Proverbs 1:2). The result of a lack of discipline

is that “he will die.” This doesn’t refer to physical, though that can be the end result, but rather to a miserable, destructive life. We ought to take serious heed to God’s warning. Sexual immorality enslaves and then destroys.]