

PROVERBS 5

- ¹ My son, attend to my wisdom, and incline your ear to my words;
² that you may keep good understanding, and the discretion of my lips gives you a charge. Pay no attention to a worthless woman,
³ for honey drops from the lips of a harlot, who for a season pleases your palate;
⁴ but afterwards you will find her more bitter than gall, and sharper than a two-edged sword.
⁵ For the feet of folly lead those who deal with her down to the grave with death, and her steps are not established.
⁶ For she does not travel upon the paths of life; but her ways are slippery, and not easily known.
⁷ Now then *my son*, hear me, and do not make my words of no effect.
⁸ Remove your way far from her; do not draw near to the doors of her house:
⁹ lest you give away your life to others, and your substance to the merciless;
¹⁰ lest strangers be filled with your strength, and your labors come into the houses of strangers;
¹¹ And you repent at last, when the flesh of your body is consumed,
¹² and you shall say, "How have I hated instruction, and my heart avoided reproofs!
¹³ I did not hear the voice of him that instructed me, and taught me, neither did I incline my ear.
¹⁴ I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly."
¹⁵ Drink waters out of your own vessels, and out of your own springing wells.
¹⁶ Do not let waters out of your fountain be spilled by you, but let your waters go into your streets.
¹⁷ Let them be yours alone, and let no stranger partake with you.
¹⁸ Let your fountain of water be *truly* your own, and rejoice with the wife of your youth.
¹⁹ Let *your* loving deer and your graceful colt company with you, and let her be considered your own, and be with you at all times, for ravished with her love you shall be greatly increased.
²⁰ Do not be intimate with a strange woman, neither fold yourself in the arms of a woman not your own.
²¹ For the ways of a man are before the eyes of God, and He looks on all his paths.
²² Iniquities ensnare a man, and everyone is bound in the chains of his own sins.
²³ Such a man dies with the uninstructed, and he is cast forth from the abundance of his own substance, and has perished through folly.