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Proverbs 7

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Proverbs 7.

Topics.

- Say to wisdom, you are my sister, to keep you from forbidden woman.
- Young men who take the road to the adulterous woman lack sense.
- The adulterous woman seizes her victim and kisses him.
- My husband has gone on a long journey let us take our fill of love.
- The slain of the adulterous woman go down to the chambers of death.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Proverbs is a collection of Israelite wisdom literature, that has multiple authors, but most of it is attributed to King Solomon. Chapter one to nine gives readers a framework for understanding the rest of the book. The central concern of the book of Proverbs is practical wisdom for living. We are told that the beginning and essence of wisdom is the fear of the LORD (Prov. 1:7) (Prov. 9:10). It contrasts the benefits of seeking wisdom and the pitfalls of living a foolish life. While the wicked stumble in deep darkness (Prov. 4:19), the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day ((Prov. 4:18). Individual proverbs date from between the tenth and sixth centuries B.C.

1

KINGS AND ANGELS

The title king is often used throughout the book of Proverbs, it comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) which can refer to the following four things:

1. A royal king ascending to the throne of royalty and reigning from it.
2. A male sovereign (i.e., a man or boy who rules as a monarch over an independent state.
3. The chief, or the principal leader or ruler of a group (secular or religious).
4. A messenger or ambassador, especially of God, (i.e. an angel, a king, a prophet, a priest or a teacher).
5. The best, the strongest and the wisest of all.

It is interesting to notice in the first verse of proverbs (Prov. 1:1) the word king comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) and the first mention of an angel in the Bible also comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) (Gen. 16:7). This means when the title king is used in the book of Proverbs it carries the idea of a wise king that does good unless the context implies otherwise.

For further information concerning angels see the title:

- Angels (ON WEBSITE MENU).

PROVERBS 7:1-5

Say to Wisdom, You are My Sister, to Keep from Forbidden Women.

- **Proverbs 7:1-5:** My (Solomon) son, keep my words and treasure up my commandments with you; ²keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye; ³bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call insight your intimate friend, ⁵to keep you from the forbidden woman, from the adulteress with her smooth words.

Solomon tells his son to take wisdom as his sister and insight as his friend, because a sister and a friend will do whatever they can to protect their brother or their friend from harm. In the context of these verses it means wisdom will keep Solomon's son from getting enticed and trapped by the adulteress woman.

The forbidden woman: is a married woman who has sex with a man other than her husband. In the King James Bible she is also called the strange woman, an evil woman and a whorish woman. (Prov. 2:16) (Prov. 5:20) (Prov. 6:24-29).

PROVERBS 7:6-10

Young Men who take the Road to Adulterous Woman Lack Sense.

- **Proverbs 7:6-10:** For at the window of my (Solomon's) house I have looked out through my lattice, ⁷and I have seen among the simple, I have perceived among the youths, a young man lacking sense, ⁸passing along the street near her corner, taking the road to her (the adulterous woman) house ⁹in the twilight, in the evening, at the time of night and darkness. ¹⁰And behold, the woman meets him, dressed as a prostitute (Harlot in KJV), wily of heart.

Solomon calls a man that has sex with a married woman a foolish, naïve and simple man lacking in wisdom and insight. The woman in focus here is not a single woman acting as a prostitute, but a married woman that goes out on the street, seductively dressed to seduce. The man is called simple and naïve, because they are getting themselves sexually involved with a married woman and by doing so will not only bring the wrath of her husband upon them and most likely destroy the marriage, but also bring hurt on the children and destroy their reputation.

PROVERBS 7:11-15

The Adulterous Woman Seizes Her Victim and Kisses Him.

- **Proverbs 7:11-15:** She is loud and wayward; her feet do not stay at home; ¹²now in the street, now in the market, and at every corner she lies in wait. ¹³She seizes him and kisses him, and with bold face she says to him, ¹⁴I had to offer sacrifices, and today I have paid my vows; ¹⁵so now I have come out to meet you, to seek you eagerly, and I have found you.

The man the adulterous woman entices is pictured as being her prey. This married and adulterous woman's religion was such that she could go to her god, offer sacrifices and say prayers then go out on the street looking for a man to have sex with.

PROVERBS 7:16-23

My Husband Has gone on a Journey Let us Take Our Fill of Love.

- **Proverbs 7:16-23:** I have spread my couch with coverings, coloured linens from Egyptian linen; ¹⁷I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. ¹⁸Come, let us take our fill of love till morning; let us delight ourselves with love. ¹⁹For my husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey; ²⁰he took a bag of money with him; at full moon he will come home." ²¹With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. ²²All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast ²³till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life.

By flattery and seductive speech, the adulterous woman seduces her victim. She is pictured as a hunter going after its prey and the man who she seduces is seen as her prey being led to the slaughter. Such a man might be spoken of as a stud by those in the secular world, but from heavens viewpoint he is pictured as:

- An ox being led to the slaughter.
- A stag with an arrow piercing its liver.
- A bird caught in a trap.

An ox is strong, a deer a most beautiful creature and a bird soars through the freedom of the sky the symbolism of these creatures it that it matters not how great a man maybe as a worrier, or how majestic in authority and power or how free he maybe, by sexually lying with another man's wife he has set his life on a path of ruin and death. Especially during these days since the penalty for adultery was stoning. This is why such men are spoken of as being simple, naïve and foolish.

PROVERBS 7:24-27

3

Slain of the Adulterous Woman Go Down to Chambers of Death.

- **Proverbs 7:24-27:** And now, O sons, listen to me (Solomon), and be attentive to the words of my mouth. ²⁵Let not your heart turn aside to her (the adulterous woman) ways; do not stray into her paths, ²⁶for many a victim has she laid low, and all her slain are a mighty throng. ²⁷Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.

The adulterous woman is pictured as the seducer and the men as the fools and victims led to the slaughter not knowing the cost to their lives. The three most common things to bring men to ruin is greed for money, craving for power and the seductive woman.

WISDOM EMBRACES THE FOLLOWING NINE ASPECTS

1. Having a clear thoughtful, rational, discerning, discriminating, sharp, and discreet mind.
2. Being cautious in character as opposed to being impulsive.
3. Being sensible and practical with the skills and talents that a person has.
4. Making choices that considers others and that will be fair and just.
5. Studying, reading and learning to acquire mental knowledge that helps in making right decisions for the present moment and for the future.
6. Being able to see the future danger of a decision, choice or action.

7. Having the ability to make good choices and decisions in the present moment that will end in the best result and a good outcome in the future.
8. Being able to perceive the end result or ramifications (good or bad) of the underlying message a speaker is teaching.
9. Wisdom will protect a person from making decisions and choices in the present moment that will lead to hurt or calamity in the future for themselves and for others.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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