

The Strange Woman

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Turn to Proverbs 2. We are not going verse by verse through the book of Proverbs. We are trying to cover all the various areas or warnings and exhortations in the book of Proverbs. Sometimes, we will go through the whole book of Proverbs and glean verses from other places pertaining to the subject. Look at Proverbs 2. Let us pray before we read. Our Father, help us this evening. This is a most needed message in every church, in every nation on the earth, and in every city. I plead, Lord, for Your Holy Spirit's direction and power. Lord, make it long remembered. We pray for each of us that the message will come to us from Your heart to our hearts, because You care for us. Speak to us now in Jesus' name, Amen.

In the first chapter of Proverbs, you find the young man at home. He is commanded to obey his parents. The first command that is given to the young man as he leaves home is *if sinners entice thee, consent thou not*. We went through this first chapter. Last week, we had the warning concerning the strange man. This is a father talking to his son. In Proverbs 2:16, we have a second warning concerning that which you meet on the outside. Proverbs 2:1: *My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee*; Proverbs 2:16-22: *To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead. None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life. That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it. But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it*. There are many verses in Proverbs about the strange woman. The word *strange* actually is the word *alien*. Israel had the law and command that there was to be no fornication, prostitution, or adultery in the land of Israel. They used the word *alien*, outsider. That is the manner of life with them. After a while, this crept over into the camp of Israel. You find this woman no doubt connected with the camp of Israel, but she is still called a strange woman.

Let us look at something about her by way of introduction. She is not a professional prostitute but is a married woman who is unfaithful to her husband and her vows to God. Look at verse 17: *Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, (That, no doubt, is her husband.) and forgetteth the covenant of her God*. She has forgotten her marriage vows to her husband, the guide of her youth. Now, there are two types of strange women mentioned in the book of Proverbs. We see the first one in Proverbs 7. We will be going from chapter 2, 5, 6, and 7 this evening. In Proverbs 7:11, we have the street walker. She is still a married woman but not a professional prostitute. Proverbs 7:11-12: *(She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: Now is she without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.)* Verse 8 talks about **her** corner: *Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house*, This is a street walker. She is out in the streets seducing. Turn to Proverbs 9. You have a little, sweet homebody. She is at home. The milkman, the garbage man, the postman, the repairman, or somebody else comes by — Proverbs 9:13-18: *A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing. For she sitteth at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city, To call passengers who go right on their ways: Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell*. Let me say three things about her. We are still on the introduction. She cannot enjoy a rich home. Proverbs 7:16 talks about the *bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt*. This is a well-to-do home. She is not satisfied with the matter of riches, nor with a good man. Verse 19, she says: *For the goodman is not at home*, Neither is she satisfied with religion, because she forsook the vows of her covenant and the guide of her youth.

Now, three basic things about the strange woman and a lot of little points under the big main

points.

NUMBER ONE, SHE IS THE ONE MAKING THE CONQUEST, NOT THE MAN. The man thinks, “Boy, I have made a conquest.” The man of this caliber keeps a record of it. He is dumb. He is stupid. He is not the one that is making the conquest. She is the victor, and he is the victim. Let us look at verses of Scripture. Look at Proverbs 6:26: *For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.* She is on the prow. Look at verse 25: *Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her **take thee** with her eyelids.* Look at Proverbs 7:13: *So she **caught him**,* Look at Proverbs 7:21-22: *With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she **forced him**. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;* Look at verse 26: *For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her.* Turn over to Proverbs 23:27-28: *For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit. She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men.* The man that thinks he is the victor is badly mistaken. He is the animal for the slaughter.

NUMBER TWO, HER WEAPONS OF CONQUEST. It would pay you a whole lot of dividends if you listen. She uses only the means of communication that is available for a woman to keep her husband. There is nothing wrong with that inside the realms of marriage. She uses those things. I spoke to a young couple the other day. The young couple said, “Well, we no longer communicate.” Oh, yes, you do. Everybody communicates. We are communicating and using the same mediums, but we just communicate another message. Everybody communicates. “We no longer communicate.” Oh, but you are. It is just an opposite message. These are the means of communication in a godly home and the means of communication that a fallen woman uses to get a hold of her prey. Turn to Proverbs 7:10. First, she uses the eye gate. Proverbs 7:10: *And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot,* That is outside, what she wore. It did not call her an harlot. It said she had on *the attire of an harlot.* Let me just stop there a little bit. Ladies, you need to understand. If you do not understand, I will be plain. I do not pull punches. Young folks here understand. I am not over their heads. Ladies, you need to be careful about what you wear out in public. If you do not know what the sight of your body does to a man, then you need some other woman in this church to tell you, and if you do not know, I will tell you if you come see me. You need to understand about the fact of using the clothes modestly. You excite the man. There is no apology for that. That is the way men are built. Sin has perverted that thing. She caught him with the attire of an harlot. Ladies, you need to understand what a woman’s legs and the rest of her body exposed does to a man. It is sad to be tempted in the house of God when they come into the house of God. That ought not to be so. She had on the attire of an harlot. She uses the eye gate — what you see. She may not be a harlot, but if she is dressed like it, then it is very provocative. Be careful. She uses her beauty and her eyelids — look at Proverbs 6:25. This is the way she dressed. She dressed to get the attention of a man. She dressed to catch his eye. She dressed so that he would turn around and take a second look. She dressed so that it would be written in his memory, and he would think about it — the eye gate. Actually, when we dress, we should dress for the face. We should dress to call attention to the face. That is the person in our dress. Proverbs 6:25: *Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids.* This is the eye — oh, what a communication the eyes are! Some have message eyes. Some have bedroom eyes. Some have eyes that challenge. She takes him with her eyes. What he sees – the slit dresses that reveal the thigh, the low-cut necklines that reveal a woman’s bosom – is very provocative. He said, “You be careful.” This is how she caught him. She caught him by getting a hold of his eye. Her eyes made contact. The eyes made a message of communication between her and him. She used the eye gate.

Second, she used the ear gate. Look at Proverbs 2:16. This is one main warning about this conversation. Oh my! I am of the affirm opinion that most affairs are not because of sexual reasons but because of ego problems. We really operate on ego. Somebody comes along and bolsters the ego. My, what an attitude! What a change! We are creatures of ego. Sometimes, the ego has been

shattered, and somebody comes along and flatters and builds it back up. I repeat again, most affairs are not because of sexual reasons but because of ego problems. Somebody came along, the ego was bolstered, and they were very attracted to them. Look at what she uses in Proverbs 2:16. This is the first mention of her. When God uses the first mention principle, you had better listen. *To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words*; She knows how to talk. She knows how to make him feel like somebody, feel like a man. She flattered him. Look again in Proverbs 5:3: *For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb*, (Oh, how sweet the words are!) *and her mouth is smoother than oil*: — how smooth, how easing, how quieting. I remember a man telling me — it was an adulterous case — “She just makes me feel so at peace and rest and quiet.” What does it say? *For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb*, (very sweet) *and her mouth is smoother than oil*: You talk about pouring oil on troubled waters. “I was troubled and frustrated, and she just quieted all my storms.” This is the weapon. The ear gate. This is mentioned more than any other of her weapons. Proverbs 6:24: *To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman*. Look again at Proverbs 7:5: *That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words*. Look at verse 21: *With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him*. Now, how does she flatter? Proverbs 7:15: *Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee*. “I have been looking for you all of my life. I have never run across anybody like you. Man alive, you are the person that I have lived and dreamed about. Here you are, and I have been seeking you all of my life.” Oh, man alive, he is swept off of his feet. “I am somebody. Of all the people that she could see, and she saw me. Not only that, she has a husband, and she sees me.” What happens? He is swept off of his feet by flattery. We cannot take a whole lot of flattery. *Pride goeth before destruction . . .* The matter of compliments is one thing, but flattery is another. Young people, you need the God-given sense to know the difference between flattery and a compliment. You need to understand that. Everybody who compliments you is not a flatterer, but you need to ask for discernment. She uses the ear gate. “Oh the words – they are sweet; they soothe; they quiet; and they make me feel like somebody that nobody has ever met. She talked so sweet to me and quieted all of my storms. I feel at rest, at peace, and at harmony.” You had better be careful. That is her weapon.

Third, she uses the touch. She not only uses the eye gate and the ear gate, but she also uses what you feel and touch. That is powerful. Young people, I preach on this. When you touch a girl’s body or a girl’s body touches your body, that is communication. That is electricity. That is powerful. I have said many times, if you sit too close together in church, you will not hear anything that I say. There is another power, a sensual power, that draws out. You do not hear because there is a physical sensation that makes you not able to hear. Proverbs 6:29: *So he that goeth in to his neighbour’s wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent*. Look at Proverbs 7:13: *So she caught him . . .* (She put her hands upon him.) *So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him*, What happens? She caught him, touched him, and kissed him. Look at Proverbs 5:20: *And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman*, (That means *delirious*.) *and embrace the bosom of a stranger*? Oh what the power of touch and does to the opposite sex! This is the reason to warn young people about necking and petting. You are playing with fire. You are playing with fire that you cannot handle. You think that you can handle it, but you do not really know. There reaches a place where you cannot handle it and a place where you do not want to handle it. You forget everything else under the sun. I see young girls putting their hands all over the legs of boys and into their shirt. Wait a minute, guys! If she will not, then you need to back it off. This is dangerous. These are things that are not wrong in the marriage relationship, but outside the marriage relationship, it sets you up for a terrible, awful sin. She uses the touch, the contact.

Fourth, she uses the power of smell. Look at Proverbs 7:17: *I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon*. Now, this is the perfume, the smell. I do not think it is wrong for a wife to smell good. I do not think that it is any sin for a woman to wear perfume. I would rather smell that

than BO. Wouldn't you? Let me back up about the way she dressed. I do not see a thing wrong in the world with a woman dressing nicely with her husband. Anybody else feel that way? Let me know it then. There is no problem about that. It is who you are dressing for. There is power in perfume. You see the television ad of the guy going by. It is always the guy attracting the girl. No, no, in reality, it is the girls attracting the guys. On television, you see a man walk by with his shaving lotion, and every girl on the street turns to him. No, no, that is not so. The girl walks by and they turn their head and walk down the street. The power, the smell — I will not use the word *odor*, but perfume. There is a difference you know. She perfumed her bed. She had his head reeling about what he smelled, reeling about what he felt, reeling about what he saw, and reeling about what he heard. Why everyone of his five senses are set up for an affair, for sin. Now, you think about the back seat of automobiles and motel rooms. You think about all the girls and boys who get into trouble. I will guarantee you that every last one of those were used in the matter that swept them off their feet. There are some wicked guys. This is a father warning a son about the opposite sex. There are some men who are on the move to see how many innocent girls they can rob of their virginity. Here, the same principle goes on the other side. A father is talking to his son, not his daughter. He is talking to his son. It does not mean that he would not talk to his daughter. We are supposed to apply that to the other side of the fence when it comes to the matter of sexual gender. She uses perfume.

Fifth, she uses the taste. Look at Proverbs 7:14: *I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows*. Part of a peace offering was a feast. She said, "I have a prime rib roast in here. I have got mashed potatoes. I have got a good meal." She uses the taste. Again, that is a disarmament. All of these are used now in the conquest. Ladies, listen carefully. You say, "I cannot communicate." Oh yes, you are. You are communicating, "I do not want to put my hands on you anymore." Then there is this matter of perfume. Instead of perfume, they smell BO. What are you saying? You are saying, "I do not love you enough. I am too busy enough to freshen up for you." The sight when he comes home, what a sight for sore eyes! You do not comb your hair. You do not brush your teeth. You do not dress up. You only dress up when you go out for everybody else, when you go downtown. How about dressing up for your husband every once in a while — the sight gate and the touch gate? How about cooking him a meal once in a while and say, "I love you"? Your house ought to be the best place in town to go eat. It ought to be the best place in town. There is nobody in Lakeland that can cook steaks like my wife. I have never tasted one. If I really want a first class steak, I go home. That is not the only thing she knows how to cook. She knows how to boil water, too. She is a good cook. Home ought to be a place — I go home, and my wife fixes something. This fallen woman uses every avenue to approach and disarm this sucker and knock him out. That is her means.

She goes beyond that. Look at Proverbs 9:17. There is something that is so seductive about this secretive business. Proverbs 9:17: *Stolen waters are sweet*, (There is a thrill in sin. If there was not, people would not play with it. There is a thrill in sin. Sin has its thrills.) *Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant*. She appeals to the matter of the secretive, the seductive element. The thrill of sin. "You have not tried this. This is wonderful." Look at Proverbs 7:18-20. She uses the assurance of safety. Look at Proverbs 7:18-20: *Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home . . .* "He is not here now. You do not need to worry about him coming in on you." I remember an illustration of a man in Laredo. He went to this woman's house. Her husband came home. He ended up spending the night in the closet. All night long, she is begging her husband to go out and get a loaf of bread or quart of milk or something. He would not go out. She was trying to get this guy out from the closet right by the bed. That man stood at attention all night long. The husband did not want to go out. He was tired. He went to sleep. The other man stood not six feet from him. He stood at attention not daring to breath all night long. What did she say? "He is not here. You do not need to worry about him coming in and catching us. He is gone. Not only that, he has gone on a long journey. Not only that, he has taken a bag of money with him. He has gone for business reasons, and he is not going to

come home. He will only come home on the day appointed. He will not be home until Friday.” She appeals to him about the assurance of safety. “Nobody will know about this but you and me.” The sad thing is God knows it and you know it. You commit adultery, and nobody else may ever know but the two of you. I want to tell you, you know it. You knowing it will do something to you. God knows it. This is the warning about that. Those are her tricks of the trade. Those are her means of communication. Those same means of communication are open to husbands and wives. There is nothing wrong with that. God gave you the five physical areas of communication for you to communicate positive messages to your mate and not negative messages to your mate. Before you got married, you communicated. You use the same areas of communication. After you get married, you use the same areas, but you communicate a different message.

NUMBER THREE, CONSIDER THE COST OF ADULTERY. I was reading about a young man fixing to go across the border into Mexico. This is a true story. As he started to go across, there was a man in the street selling pencils. The man was sitting in a wheelchair and was blind. The man in the wheelchair said, “Son, where are you going?” He said, “Across the border” and laughed. The man said, “Son, listen. Is one night across the border worth that I am blind and in a wheelchair for twenty years?” Previous to that, the man was selling pencils, and the young man had dropped some money in the man’s hat and said, “Give me one of those pencils.” That is when the man said, “Is it worth a night across the border to be blind for the rest of my life in a wheelchair for twenty years?” The young man gasped and said, “Oh no, sir.” The man in the wheelchair said, “Son, read what is on the pencil.” On the pencil, it read: *For the wages of sin is death*. Now, what does it cost? You see it portrayed on television. You cannot hardly watch any decent program at all unless they throw some bedroom scene right into the middle of the television program that in itself there is nothing wrong with it. You look at in the newspaper. You hear it. It is taken for granted. You hear about AIDS, the homosexual disease, with no known cure. By the way, penicillin does not cure gonorrhea and syphilis. Read the latest reports. Men have thumbed their nose at the laws of God. The matter of venereal disease is God’s answer to the man who thumbs his nose at the laws of God. *Thou shalt not commit adultery*. The homosexual lifestyle says, “We can do it. You cannot license us.” They may license you, and the senators may try to pass a law on your behalf. I have news for you. God has something to say about that. I think that God with this other new death syndrome has spoken again loud and clear. *For the wages of sin is death . . .* Let us look in the Scripture. The cost of adultery. Look at Proverbs 2:18. Let us look at what it says. First, notice the word *death*. Proverbs 2:18: *For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead*. Let me just read them, and then I will come out and comment. Look at Proverbs 5:5: *Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell*. Proverbs 7:27: *Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death*. Proverbs 9:18: *But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell*. Proverbs 2:19: *None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life*. Now, this is death, spiritual death, physical death. I realize there is forgiveness of sin. I realize God forgives. The Bible says that no whoremonger or fornicator or adulterer shall inherit the kingdom of God. That is clear. That is plain. God hates this thing. There is spiritual death, physical death, death by disease, death by emotional disturbances (distorted imaginations), death to spirituality, and death to feeling. Whoredom and wine take away the heart, and a man or woman involved in this does not have any heart. Why? It robs them of the tender sensitiveness. None return to innocence, to purity, to beguileness, or to freedom in this matter. None return. When you go down to her house, you do not come away the same. You will never be the same. God may forgive you, but you will never, never, never be the same. David repented, but David was never the same after that. God washed him and God forgave him, but David was never the same after that.

Second, not only does it costs death, but it costs bitterness. Look at Proverbs 5. Oh, you say, “That is a thrill. That is a kick.” It is a kick, but in the seat of your breeches. Proverbs 5:4: *But her end is bitter as wormwood . . .* Wormwood is almost fatal. The thing was so bitter. . . . *sharp as a twoedged sword. Her feet go down to death . . .* Look at Proverbs 5:11: *And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed*, As far as I am concerned, I believe God is talking about

venereal disease. I have known folks who have contracted venereal disease in the war. The months and the years came along and twenty or thirty years from then, all of a sudden, it hit them. They wound up in a mental institution for the rest of their lives. There is bitterness in venereal disease when it shows up in their children. When they are born maimed, blind, distorted, and such things — bitterness. Is there a kick or is there a thrill? That is not much of a kick or thrill then. A bitter end it shall be. *But her end is bitter as wormwood . . .* Remorse. Proverbs 5:11: *And thou mourn at the last . . .* This is remorse. Proverbs 5:9: *Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:* Honor speaks of the freshness of youth, the vigor of early life, and the best years of a man's life. Who are the cruel? The cruel be the outraged husband that knocked your teeth out. The cruel could be the outraged husband that shocked you. The cruel could be the relatives of the woman that will not forget. The cruel could be the lawyers who are suing you for a breach of promise or alienation of affections or charge of rape. The cruel could be the medical bills that are performed. Proverbs 7:23: *Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life.* Immorality and alcohol go together. *Thine eyes shall behold strange women . . .* Where does debauchery and drunkenness hit? It hits the liver. The cruel could be the doctor bills that pile up and pile up and pile up — pretty costly. The cruel could be the finance loan company. Adultery is a high, high price for sin. There is financial loss. Proverbs 5:10: *Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;* Oh my, there is the loss of finances, again and again and again. That is bitterness.

Third, it costs poverty. Proverbs 6:26: *For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.* Go down to the rescue mission. Go to the rescue mission and find out how many of them started the road down by immorality. Ask them. Ask them. Now, what are they doing? They are begging for a handout. This thing does not make you a king. This makes you a pauper. Look at Proverbs 23:33 and 21. It talks about strange women. He warns about alcohol. Proverbs 23:33: *Thine eyes shall behold strange women . . .* Ladies and guys, if you drink alcohol, you will be immoral. Alcohol is designed to lower your moral restraints and moral inhibitions, and many a person has committed immorality and all sorts of other crimes because of the fact of alcohol. Alcohol and immorality go together. With alcohol and immorality goes poverty. Look at Proverbs 23:21: *For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.* This is a matter of poverty. You think of folks who have been stripped. You think of folks in high places of authority that have been reduced to nothing by the matter of adultery.

Fourth, it will cost you guilt. Look at Proverbs 6:26. There are many, many things that it says you will lose. I hope I can put some holy fear in you young people's lives. I remember when I was in the service in the air corp. I was an old, country boy. You say, "Well, I am up-town business." I will tell you, I am glad that I was not up-town business, because I had plenty of opportunities to play with immorality overseas, and I did not. I want to tell you, the films they showed about venereal disease and what it did to the human body scared the living daylights out of me. I did not want to look cross-eyed at a woman. I was scared. Why? It was serious and sobering. This generation needs to show some films like that in the public schools instead of these sex education courses. This is the result. They showed that in the services. I remember those US clubs — I forget the name of the places where men go out in immorality and come in for treatment after immorality. They go in there lined up like animals. They are getting treatment. What is the price of this thing? Look at Proverbs 6:26: *For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?* (If you think he can do that without getting burned, you are badly mistaken. You are going to get burned. You are going to get burned in your mind. You are going to get burned in your billfold. You are going to get burned in your morals. You are going to get burned in your health. You are going to get burned in your emotions. You are going to get burned in your spiritual life. You are going to get burned in time.) *So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent.* So you have the

word *guilt*. We think today that just because everybody says so, it is right. Listen, God stills put a conscience in the heart of people. You cannot stifle the conscience that God gives old-fashioned guilt in the heart. Proverbs 6:30: *Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; Somebody is hungry and steals, you would probably say, "Well, all right, you can have it. I did not know you were hungry." But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house. But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding:* He said, "You are not very bright. You lack understanding. That means that the lights in the seventh story are out." *But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.* What do you do? You do something to your innermost being. You destroy your own soul. You destroy communion with God. *A wound and dishonour shall he get.* This may be bad reputation that will follow you wherever you go. It may be a wound that you get from an enraged husband that knocks your eyes out or knocks your teeth out or shoots you so that you are paralyzed the rest of your life. *A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.* David's reproach is still not wiped away. Is it? Is Solomon's reproach wiped away? No sir! Sampson – when you think about Sampson, you think about Delilah. . . . *his reproach shall not be wiped away.* You think of folks who have fallen into that terrible sin and the broken homes that have come out of this very church. It stands out like a beacon light. . . . *his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.* That man will not spare in the day of vengeance. *He will not regard any ransom . . .* You go to court, and he sues you. There is no amount of money that you can give to a jealous husband to make him satisfied. He will never be satisfied even if you give him a million dollars. You cannot satisfy him. *He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.* You say, "I am sorry. I apologize." I am sorry, but that is something they will never get over.

Fifth, it costs slavery. Look at Proverbs 5:22. It is sad to be a slave of this. I have talked to folks who are slaves of this. It is nothing but a physical thing. When the physical thing is over, they despise him. They hate them. Proverbs 5:22: *His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.* It gets a hold of you, and you are no longer in control. It has you like the man who drinks. He takes one drink and says, "Man alive, I have got control of this." The Chinese have a saying, "Man takes drink. Drink takes drink. Drink takes man." What happens? It gets a hold of a man, and he is now governed by his lust. He hates it and despises it. Yet he does this thing again and again and again. He said, "I wish I could be free from this thing." But, he cannot. God's Word says that you will be holden with that.

Fifth, it costs divine judgment. Hebrews 13:4: *Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.* It costs divine judgment. I believe that is venereal disease. It costs a wicked imagination that torments him years after the body is unable to follow its designs – men too old to function who cannot follow the body's designs. This is an infernal fashion that they have incited. The imagination still burns with that thing, yet the body cannot keep up with the imagination. There are men in this church who used to be immoral, and God saved them. They would give their right arm if they could blot out of their memory their escapades and their places of iniquity and sin. The devil brings them up when they want to read their Bible and when they want to pray and when they want to do right. An imagination is written and engraved of awful, hideous things on the mind and memory. Listen, it also costs a distorted sense of love, what makes it impossible for the victim to enjoy normal married life without becoming bored to death. When you run around like this, what happens? It destroys the ability to be satisfied with one woman or one man the rest of your life. It is boredom. You are looking for something exciting. This is what people do. When they are bored with adultery or fornication, they turn to homosexuality and then to bestiality. Why? They are trying to find some excitement. When you play with sin, you destroy. You destroy! You destroy your own marriage and your ability to enjoy a normal married life. Let me say something else while I am on this. I might as well ring a bell. I am passed time anyway, and I am going to preach this one tonight. This needs to be preached. Some of you men are getting all these wicked porno magazines and taking them home to your wife. Porno comes out of hell. You

take your wife these things that are absolutely repulsive to her and try to force those wicked things that came from pornography upon your wife, you ought to be ashamed of yourself. Then again, there is a restless desire for new conquests which prevents any permanent fidelity to your partner, therefore endangering any marriage. "I have conquered this one" – and another one, and another one and another one. You set out with nothing lasting. Then there is the obsession with the bodies of people. Do you know where bodies end up? You say, "Boy, what a bother." They end in the sod. All *bods* are for the sod unless we get the Lord's nod. Boy, I am a poet tonight. Look at it. I have lived long enough to know this and that. After a while, that *bod* – do you know what happens? It sags under the chin. It sags under here and here and here and several places. It turns loose of the bones, and the bones protrude out. You see the bones. You find somebody to live long with in this life. You go to the hospital to visit them, and they have got a bone for a leg. We get wrapped up in the *bod* instead of the person. We forget all about the person, and everybody's *bod* after a while is not going to look too hot. You would not want to smooch with Miss America seventy-five years from now. She is twenty-five at least right now. I have not seen a seventy-five-year-old woman I would want to smooch with yet. I liked to have got myself in trouble just then. Oh my! I think about some of these senior citizens. Senior citizen are having a good time. You know, kissing mama. I am not talking about you folks, now. I did not think that all the way through. I should be careful.

Let me give you four things for protection. Look at Proverbs 2:20. Number one, be careful who you hang around. If there was not such a powerful attraction of a man for a woman, then why in the world is so much of it going on? I am a preacher. Do not come across me and say, "It don't bother me." I am going to take you to the doctor's office. I am a preacher, but I ain't blind. You had better go to the doctor's office. Something is wrong with you. Proverbs 2:20. After warning about her end, he says: *That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.* What is that? That means proper companions. Guys, you may be as clean as a whistle, but if you run with guys who are not clean as a whistle, it will not be long before you will not be clean as a whistle. That is just as simple as simple can be. If you run with guys who steal, it will not be long before you are going to steal. If you run around with guys who cuss, then it will not be long before you cuss. If you run around with girls or guys who are immoral, it will not be long before you are going to be immoral. You have a right, and not only that, but you choose who you run around with. *That thou mayest walk in the way of good men . . .*

Number two, avoid their hangouts. Look at Proverbs 5:7. Avoid their hangouts. *Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:* Now seemingly the guy that fell into it over in Proverbs 7, knew about her, but he figured he could handle it. Look at Proverbs 7:7. Verse 6, the guy is standing looking out the window. *For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,* (You do not know the power of temptation.) *Passing through the street near her corner;* (The guy looking out the window knew where her corner was. Didn't he? He recognized her corner.) *and he went the way to her house,* Do you know that the Bible says in James: *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed?* Did you know that we want to be tempted – our old nature? We want to be tempted. We put ourselves in the position. Here he went to the place. There is just something chilling about being tempted, but we think we can handle it. He went by her house. What does it say in Proverbs 5? *Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:* Go around the other side of the block! Do not walk in front of her house. Do not come near. Why? You do not know the power of the temptress, nor do you know the weakness of the flesh.

Number three, leave porno magazines alone. Look at Proverbs 6:25: *Lust not after her beauty in thine heart;* You had better leave porno magazines alone. You take a book and look at nude, naked pictures, and you mean to tell me that you are going to think about Sunday school – not on your dear life! That was not designed to make you spiritual. That was not designed for you to make you

go to Sunday school. You had better say with Job: *I made a covenant with mine eyes . . .* You had better watch what your eyes see. Akin caught a look and he lost his whole life because of what he saw. Adam and Eve looked at the tree, and what they saw inflamed them. They partook of it. David looked out the window. What he saw brought about his downfall. Look at what a glimpse did. You had better not. I will tell you this. Sometimes, we are ignorant. Sometimes, folks will fight sin or pornography, and they will get to looking at the pictures so that they know what they are fighting. Then, they wind up immoral. I never had so much of a battle with my thoughts in all of my entire life with textbooks in the public schools of things that I read. I read so that I could show the school board and say, "Look here." Oh my soul, when I was reading to attack the business, what happened? What you read is put on your mind. What is put on your mind, you just do not shake it out. I found such a terrible battle with my thought life. Why? You had better not read or look at the pictures, and you had better not read these paper back books that inflame your imagination. Why? Leave it alone. Leave it alone!

Number four, consider marriage fidelity. Look at Proverbs 5. I am not embarrassed to read this publicly. Proverbs 5:15-19: *Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. 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.* Brother, you keep up your courtship at home with your wife, the wife of your vows, and the wife of your youth. That is what the Bible says. This is not dirty; this is practical. It is telling the young man to court his wife. You make up to your wife. You women, read the Bible and understand what God is saying. What will happen? It will keep you from the terrible, horrible sin of adultery. Let me say this. I do not like to preach on subjects that remind redeemed souls of their past. I am sure there are some men who sat here tonight who are saved, redeemed, and grateful that they are saved. While I preached about this, it reminded them down the road of something they would like to forget, but in reminding them, they are grateful that somebody warned so that somebody else does not walk and taste the bitter cup that they have. Protect young people. Young people, the devil says, "Everybody has got to sin a little bit." Well, everybody who sins a little bit has to reap a whole lot. The happiest Person Who has ever walked the face of this earth was the Lord Jesus. The Bible says: *hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness (or joy) above thy fellows.* Now, why was He happy and joyous? Because He was pure. Sin kills in a hundred instances every time. Now, I warn you tonight. I am glad the Bible also says: *But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:* I am glad that . . . *though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow . . .* I am glad that when I looked through the Scriptures, I found pictures of those – not as an excuse – but God reveals that there is restoration. David fell, and you find his restoration. You find the weakness of Sampson, but you see his restoration. I am glad of that. God does not paint it pretty. He shows the terribleness of sin, but He also shows the grace of God. There is somebody here tonight carrying the guilt of adultery on your heart. I have news for you. You say, "Should I come out and publicly confess it?" No sir. No sir. There is a High Priest in Heaven and no confessional down here. Now, if the thing is public and everybody knows about it, but nobody knows you repented, then yes. But, this private thing – "Should I tell anybody?" No, do not tell anybody. You tell the Lord and ask Him to forgive you, because if you tell somebody else then they are infected with the thing and can never get over it.