

PROVERBS: LESSON 5

(Jerry Fite)

INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 7 presents wisdom's discourse concerning the ruinous nature of adultery in order to help the inexperienced son to withstand sexual temptation.

I. AN EXAMPLE ILLUSTRATING THE TEMPTATIONS AND RUINOUS NATURE OF ADULTERY (7:1-27)

- A. Exhortation to keep and cherish wisdom (v.1-5).
- B. A young man enticed and ruined by the wiles of the strange woman (v.6-23).
 - 1. The Opportunity: The youth passes by her house (v.6-9).
 - 2. The Enticements:
 - a) Bold appearance (v.10-15)
 - b) Charged senses (v.16-17)
 - c) Convenient time - husband gone (v.18-20)
 - 3. The Yielding: Resistance suddenly ceases- the flattering words lead to unsuspecting ruin (v.21-23).
- C. Exhortation to hear wisdom and not be led in the ways of the strange woman - the ways of death (v.24-27).

QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do you treat Wisdom's Law when you consider it as "the apple of your eye" (cf. Zech.2:8; Psalm 17:8)?
- 2. Why is youth, and not age, the example of the simple in chapter 7?
- 3. What was the first mistake made by the youth that led to his ruin?
- 4. What identified the woman as a harlot?
- 5. Using verses 11-13, give a brief character sketch of this woman.

6. Why would the woman have the sacrifices of the peace offering with her?

7. In verses 14-20, the woman appeals to they youth in the following ways:
 - a. To his conscience with _____.
 - b. To his vanity with _____.
 - c. To his senses with _____ and _____.
 - d. To his fear of danger with _____.

8. In verses 21-22a, what has happened in the heart of the youth?

9. In verses 22b-23, the ox and the bird comparisons illustrate what about the young man's fate?