

INTIMACY DELIGHTFUL OR DESTRUCTIVE

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth..."

GENESIS 1:27-28a

In the Garden, Sex was NOT the Forbidden Fruit The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

PROVERBS 1:7

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18-19 Key Point	18-19	

In verses 1-6 Solomon invites us to See the Seductress for who she/he really is.

WHAT TO DO

My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding.

PROVERBS 5:1

WHY/PURPOSE

That you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge.

PROVERBS 5:2

KEY POINT

For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it.

PROVERBS 5:3-6

KEY POINT

The promise is honey, but the produce is wormwood.

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

PROVERBS 31:30

In verses 7-14 Solomon invites us to stay away from the Folly of Adultery

WHAT TO (NOT) DO

And now, O sons, listen to me, and do not depart from the words of my mouth. Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house

PROVERBS 5:7-8

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality

1THESSALONIANS 4:3

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

EPHESIANS 5:3

WHY?

THE CONSEQUENCES ARE HORRIBLE.

WHEN YOU PURSUE ADULTERY, YOU FORFEIT:

- 1) Your honor to others
- 2) Your years to the merciless
- 3) Your strength to strangers
- 4) Your labor to foreigners
- 5) Your very life you will suffer and die

Adultery causes us to squander the gifts God has given us.

KEY POINT

Sin ISN'T worth what it costs. Repentance IS possible.

And you say, "How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof! I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my instructors.

PROVERBS 5:12-13

I am at the brink of utter ruin in the assembled congregation.

PROVERBS 5:14

In verses 15-19 Solomon would invite us to see and savor the beauty of intimacy in marriage.

WHAT TO DO

Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well... Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love.

PROVERBS 5:15, 18-19

WHY/PURPOSE

Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you.

PROVERBS 5:16-17

Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love.

PROVERBS 5:18-19

"The ultimate reason for embracing and obeying God's ways with sexual wisdom is not physical, or social, but spiritual."

RAY ORTLUND JR

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

EPHESIANS 5:31-32

KEY POINT

"be intoxicated always in her love."

PROVERBS 5:19b



Intimacy as covenant love between a husband and wife is a picture of the even greater covenant love between Christ and the Church.

We will either walk away from Christ toward folly and failure, or walk in Christ in freedom and fulfillment.

Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?

PROVERBS 5:20

He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is led astray.

PROVERBS 5:23

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.

So glorify God in your body.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20

The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does...

Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

1 CORINTHIANS 7:3-5

for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:20

In Christ, intimacy in marriage is a gift through which we can glorify God and love our spouse well.