

## PLAYBOY'S PAYDAY

### Proverbs 5

#### 2012 MEN'S CONFERENCE

**INTRODUCTION:** Proverbs 5:15, “Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well.”

This chapter is a strong **call to fidelity** in marriage and purity in pre-marriage. In a day of lowered standards, shattered marriages, and broken homes, we need to return to the lofty scriptural principles we have considered in today's text. Let me stress from the onset that these scriptural principles are not human suggestions. The blessings of God on your marriage, family and future depend upon your obedience to God's word.

The Bible **condemns** infidelity in marriage and in this text we will see that to be **unfaithful** is:

- Seductive - **“lips drip honey”**
- Sinful - **“feet go down to death”**
- Senseless - **“ways are unstable”**
- Shameful - **“streams of water in the street”**

The Bible commends fidelity in marriage and in this text we will see that to be faithful is that which leads to:

- Satisfying Purity of Love - **“running water out of your own well”**
- Satisfying Dignity of Love - **“let them (your children) be only your own”**
- Satisfying Liberty of Love - **“let your fountain be blessed”**
- Satisfying Unity of Love - **“rejoice with the wife of your youth”**
- Satisfying Constancy of Love - **“always be enraptured with her love”**

Stephen Olford

Where the principles of God's truth are **rejected**, there is **tragedy**; where they are **respected**, there is **victory**.

Several words stand out in this text:

#### **I. DISCRETION. 1-2**

Speaks of appreciating good judgment; wise, prudential consideration

When married couples honor and respect sex as God instructs them in His word, they can experience increasing enjoyment and enrichment in their intimacy. If we choose to disobey, we

experience disappointment and disillusionment and have to search for larger doses of sexual adventure (addiction) in order to attain the imaginary pleasure level they're seeking.

God created sex, not only for reproduction, but also for enjoyment, and He didn't put the "marriage wall" around sex to rob us of pleasure but to increase pleasure and protect it.

## II. SEDUCTION. 3-6

This portion of the text shows us how our relationship can quickly move from **sweetness to bitterness.**

**v.3** Immoral woman (strange woman) – not related to. The book of Proverbs emphasizes the importance of looking ahead to see where your actions will lead you. The wise person checks on the destination before buying a ticket.

**Proverbs 4:26, "Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established."**

**Deuteronomy 32:29, "Oh, that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!"**

The teacher discerns and uncovers corruption under the adulteress' charm. These verses will not allow us to forget **"that there is an afterward"**

**v.3-4 "lips drip honey"**

**"speech (mouth/words) smoother than oil"**

**"in the end"** (when over)

**"bitter as wormwood"** – a symbol of suffering

**"sharp as a two-edged sword"** – a sword with more than one mouth, signifies the act brings pain and destruction, symbol of death.

The **flattery** conceals for a time the harmful side of the sin. This man is drawn to her because she inflates his ego with hollow praise in ways his own wife will not. This woman baits her trap with honeyed words; her goal is to seduce careless men. She knows how to inflame the passions of those who stop to listen to what she says.

The Bible is blunt about sexual sins. It cuts through like a surgeon's knife. The cut exposes to view the moral ruin, the physical wreckage, and the shameful death that results from sexual sin.

John Phillips said, *"The writer of pornography is a depraved sensualist, seeking to excite, stimulate, gloating over every detail and constantly stirring the filth portrayed; the Holy Spirit is a surgeon."*

**v.5-6**

• **Her Walk. v.5**

To walk with her is to embark on the same path

v.6 **lest** (warning) **you ponder her path of life**

**Proverbs 2:18-19, “For her house leads down to death,  
And her paths to the dead;  
None who go to her return,  
Nor do they regain the paths of life”**

**“leads”** – sinks; speaks of a gradual descent (5:23) and a sudden end (29:1)

• **Her Ways. V.6**

**“unstable”** – off the path; ways are movable, slippery, and can swiftly change her ground. On no account does she allow the man she is enticing to think of the consequences of what he is about to do. Her swiftly changing moods and appeals are bewitching, but her manner of life may be more bitter to her than death.

She employs all her arts to prevent him from pondering the path of life. Her road is the path of death.

D.W. Thomas interprets **“unstable in all her ways”** – **“she is not tranquil”**; she is unhappy, too! **Misery loves company.** Her loss of purity and fidelity is only “satisfied” with your loss.

**III. PREVENTION. 7-8**

**“Keep clear”**

Study Joseph’s response in **Gen. 39:1-12**

We should note that this book is written primarily for boys and young men and has the purpose of dissuading them from pursuing the other woman. This does not mean that the Bible takes the position that the woman is always at fault.

**“stay awake to my demands”** – listening to good common sense is essential to avoiding the pitfalls of immorality. It is a call for **CAUTION.**

- Stay awake .7
- Stay away .8

**IV. MOTIVATION. 9-14**

**A. WHAT YOU WILL BE ROBBED OF. 9-10**

You don’t wish to be robbed, do you?

It will rob a person of health and prosperity. The theme here is that the hard-earned substance could pass over to **“strangers.”**

**“honor”** (strength) – may refer to health and vigor that might be relinquished to a cruel enemy, perhaps an offended husband.

**“years”** – the best years in the prime of life would signify what those years produced, what he had worked for.

**“wealth”** – all you had gained

**Point is clear:** The price of infidelity is high; for everything one works for: position, power, prosperity.

## **B. WHAT YOUR REBELLION CAUSES. 11-14**

**v.11 “you will groan”** (“you mourn at best”) – term used for groaning of the poor and distressed

The verb conveys an animal cry of anguish when the guilty finds himself destitute. The picture is that of total exhaustion of the whole body; possible disease. Often the house of immorality is the vestibule to the funeral home.

**v.12 “if only”** is the attitude of what follows.

The condemned conscience too late will realize that instruction and reproof have been ignored. All too often the conscience lies dormant or is held down by desire when temptation is at its peak. But once the deed is done, conscience awakens.

**v.13** He looks back and wishes he had listened to his parents and his spiritual instructors.

**v.14** The worst loss of all is to bring disgrace and dishonor on the people of God and the circle of one’s fellowship. It gives the enemies of the gospel great cause to blaspheme. The shattering, soul-destroying effect of adultery is the point. Made public, adultery brings personal shame, humiliation to loved ones, and loss of respect in the larger community.

## **V. SATISFACTION. 15-23**

God’s provision for satisfying sexual desire is marriage.

### **A. FIDELITY. 15-17**

**v.15** simply tells us to satisfy our legitimate sexual thirst in the legitimate way. The images of a **“cistern and well”** are used of a wife because she, like water, satisfies desires.

**v.16-17** – the expression is simply a command not to be sexually promiscuous.

One paraphrase, “*Drink from your own cistern, drink fresh water out of your own well. Are you to seek your pleasures here and there, and drink them in the streets? Have them at home, never share them abroad.*”

## **B. FONDNESS. 18-19**

The proper course of action is to find pleasure in a fulfilling marriage. For the **“fountain be blessed”** indicates that sexual delight is God-given.

Therefore, we should rejoice in the wife who has from the vigor of youth shared the excitement and satisfaction, the joy and the contentment of a divinely blessed relationship.

### **v.19 “loving deer”**

**“graceful doe”** – expressions of the wife’s beauty and gentleness. Illustrates the gracefulness of a loving wife.

**“enraptured”** – captivated (intoxicated); infatuated

The adulterer watches the river turn into a sewer, but the faithful husband sees the water become wine! W.W. Wiersbe, “*I think it’s significant that Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding feast, as though He were giving us an object lesson concerning the growing delights of marriage. (John 2:1-11).*”

If husband and wife love each other and seek to please each other and the Lord, their relationship will be one of deepening joy and satisfaction; they won’t look around for the “greener grass.”

## **C. FOOLISHNESS. 20-23**

Freedom of choice is one of the privileges God has given us, but He instructs us and urges us to use that freedom wisely.

**v.22** NIV reads, “**The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.**”

These words could have been used as an epitaph for Samson. (**Judges 13-16**)

One of the deceitful things about sin is that it promises freedom but only brings slavery.

**Romans 6:16, “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”**

The cords of sin get stronger the more we sin, yet sin deceives us into thinking we're free and can quit sinning whenever we please.

**v.20** is a rhetorical question

As the invisible chains of habit are forged, we discover, to our horror, that we don't have the strength to break them.

Are you in bondage and seeking deliverance? Kept hidden, it grinds on the spirit and conscience of those who practice it until exposure seems a kind of relief. Many a person has deliberately left traces of a sin for others to discover, as a desperate plea for rescue from enslaving behavior. Only One can set you free.

**John 8:36, "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."**