The Fellowship Room

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

(#20) Six Hasty Misjudgments of Youth: 6:1-7-27 - ONE AT A TIME. 7:1-27: (6) Don't Become The Sacrificial Animal!

Verses 1-5: Family Tries

A Father's appeal for the son to keep his "law as the apple of your eye" (the object focused upon), and have hope of knowledge. Writing a wise father's "commands" on "the tablet of your heart" makes them easy to refer to. Treating "wisdom" and "understanding" as relatives should bring them closer for advice. The total effect is to "keep you from the immoral woman," one of the greatest temptations for a "son" to overcome. God made man with a need for companionship only a woman could provide (Genesis 2:18-25), and only an immoral, evil woman would unfairly exploit that frailty.

Verses 6-9: The Victim

Peering through a "lattice" (a trellis), it's easy to spot the next victim, a "simple...youth...devoid of understanding" (ignorant, inexperienced, untaught) going into a wrong neighborhood at the wrong time of night, and for the wrong purpose, entirely. Left to fend for himself, a young man is easy prey because he is completely at the mercy of the immoral woman's desires. He has no ingrained teaching to warn him of the situation, the woman, or the problem with which he becomes entangled.

Verses 10-23: The Vice

- **Verses 10-12**: She, as a restless and eager aggressor with a hidden agenda, met him. She was "loud and rebellious" against the thought of her marriage limitations, thus liberated in her mind from God's Law. Christian women should be taught to appreciate their God-given responsibilities (Titus 2:3-5).
- **Verses 13-15**: She boldly distracts him with kisses, shamelessly displays herself as though she had religious approval, disturbs him with her personal devotion to him. It doesn't occur to him that she is not devoted to her own husband.
- **Verses 16-17**: She pictures her lavishly decorated bedroom as inviting to his senses: colorful, festive, and femininely perfumed. He doesn't know to look beyond his immediate impression to the ultimate doom (Proverbs 5:3-6; Proverbs 7:27).
- **Verses 18-20**: She offers complete satisfaction and relieves his worry with reassurance that her husband planned to be gone long enough to not discover their adultery. It doesn't occur to him that God is watching (Proverbs 5:21), as Joseph did (Genesis 39:1-13).

The Fellowship Room

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by John T Polk II

For The Fellowship Room

• **Verses 21-23**: Her words win him over because he obviously has no inner voice of a father's wisdom to stop him. She "seduces" (compelled, forced by words) him by giving an answer to all his concerns, "entices" (gives a one-sided argument) him with "flattery" (words he wants to hear). "Immediately he went after her" as: an ox to the slaughter; fool to the punishment stocks; till he is shot through like an arrow in a trapped bird; without learning his lesson by wisdom alone. He did not realize the serious consequences of his action because he did not think far enough ahead.

Verses 24-27: The Voice

The right way, the wise way, often begins with "do not," but now the lesson that young man learned by experience is clarified for those who will observe: DO NOT entertain the thought of going her way; DO NOT allow yourself to "stray" that way, either, for she doesn't care how many "strong men" she has slain. Entering her house opens the door to the grave and spiritual death beyond!

 λ