

WISDOM SPEAKS ABOUT ADULTERY **(Proverbs 5:1-23)**

I. The pain of adultery (vs. 1-6).

- A. Solomon begins the chapter by encouraging those that will listen to him to listen to wisdom about the sin of adultery.
- B. He encourages us to have discretion in what we do because of the end result of adultery.
- C. Solomon reveals that the temptation will not be an easy one to defeat because it sounds good.
 - 1. Using a woman as the source of temptation, knowing that men can be as well, he says her words sound flattering.
 - 2. She is smooth talking.
- D. Generally those that commit this sin are searching for some type satisfaction about themselves.
 - 1. There is some type of talk that is not going on at home.
 - 2. There is a lack of communication at home and the one doing the tempting is filling that void.
- E. The one doing the tempting talks a good game and makes it sound really worth the effort.
- F. However, the pain of adultery is that death awaits the one that commits this sin.
 - 1. Though sounding good, it is really like wormwood, which is a bitter drink.
 - 2. The path of the tempter leads straight to hell.
 - 3. Notice what the Proverbs writer mentioned in chapter 7 (vs. 6-27).
- G. This is the ultimate end of one who commits adultery if they fail to repent of it.
- H. Think of the eternal pain that could be avoided if one would run from this temptation.

II. The price of adultery (vs. 7-14).

- A. Solomon moves from the end result of adultery to all that it costs us in this life to commit this sin.
- B. It can cost us our wealth.
 - 1. He starts out by pleading with us to stay away from the tempter.
 - 2. He then says that it will cost us financially (vs. 9a, 10).
 - 3. Think of the alimony and child support that is paid by those that commit adultery.
 - 4. I hear of professional athletes who pay 1,000's of dollars a month in these fees because they will not remain faithful.
- C. It can cost us our physical health.
 - 1. Vs. 9b.
 - 2. Vs. 11.
 - 3. Think of the sexually transmitted diseases that one obtains through being unfaithful.
 - 4. Some of which are incurable.

5. These eat away at the body of the one infected all because of failing to be faithful to a spouse.
- D. It can cost us our mental health.
1. Vs. 12-13.
 2. All the talks with parents before marriage, the sermons, bible classes, bible readings will haunt those that commit this sin.
 3. When you think of the pain it causes your spouse and children you will be greatly bothered by it.
 4. Your conscience will eat away at your peace of mind.
- E. It can cost your reputation.
1. Vs. 14.
 2. People don't take lightly the sin of adultery (Proverbs 6:27-35).
 3. Can a person be trusted who would lie to their spouse.
- F. No doubt forgiveness is possible as seen with the Corinthians.
- G. However, many consequences will still remain despite forgiveness being sought and given.

III. The prevention of adultery (vs. 15-23).

- A. Love your spouse.
1. Vs. 15-19; Ecclesiastes 9:9.
 - a. Ephesians 5:25, 28.
 - b. Titus 2:3-4.
 2. Why be caught up in seduction and temptation (vs. 20)?
 - a. One's true character is revealed by immorality.
 - b. If they will commit adultery with you, they will be willing to commit adultery against you.
 3. This enraptured love is commanded which means it has to be learned and probably relearned.
- B. Love your Lord.
1. Vs. 21-23.
 - a. God sees all (Proverbs 15:3).
 - b. God is going to judge adulterers (Hebrews 13:4).
 - c. Our sins will find us out (Numbers 32:23).
 2. It is much better to love God and be loyal to Him.
 - a. He looks for those who are loyal to Him (2 Chronicles 16:9; Matthew 22:37).
 - b. It was the devotion to God by Joseph that kept him from giving in to this temptation (Genesis 39:7-10).
 - c. The Lord blessed Joseph because of his faithfulness (Genesis 39:21; 41:50-52).
- C. Those who truly put God first love Him and their spouses forever.

From an outline by Mark Copeland