

Proverbs Chapter 5

In this chapter, we will continue to follow the path to maturity for the young man on his way to the university of life. We can examine the wisdom that his father Solomon showered on him, and as we do, we will also realize that it is our God and heavenly Father speaking through Solomon; yielding godly wisdom and instruction, which has application to our own lives as we mature in Him.

Proverbs 5:1: *My son, give attention to my wisdom, Incline your ear to my understanding; ^[2] that you may observe discretion, and your lips may reserve knowledge.*

- For most of the previous chapter, Solomon prepared his son to face the deceitfulness of evil men. Now he continues by addressing the cunning seductiveness of the wayward women that his boy may encounter on his journey through life. He cautions the young fellow to utilize his father's _____ and garner _____ from knowledge gained through past errors. There is an old farmer's proverb that says it like this, "Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment." God's Word is an instrument that we can utilize to gain wisdom without experiencing bad decisions.

Proverbs 5:3: *For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, And smoother than oil is her speech;*

- We have looked at the Hebrew word interpreted "_____" before. It is the same word as used in Proverbs 2:16, which is translated there as "strange" (**zuwr, zoor**; specifically, to *commit adultery*), one who turns aside, who forgets the covenant of her God. Although it is somewhat interchangeable with the Hebrew word **moray**, {*nok-ree'*}; which can also be interpreted as an adulteress; **noisy** is specifically a foreigner, and that word is also used in the chapter 2 sighting. Why is that distinction important? It has, in my opinion, to do with family position. The "**zero**" comes

from within the household of God and becomes like a foreigner – estranged from God by her choice to *forget the covenant of her God*, whereas the “**Noori**,” has never been within the confines of the covenant. The lure and credibility of the adulteress (**zkr**) are far more dangerous to our soul than the ranting of a foreigner.

- When we, as Spirit-filled Christians, listen to the babbling of secular speakers trying to define or interpret the ways of God, we are not easily deceived. But think how often a silver-tongued preacher has led a portion of the flock astray with illusory _____, does the name Jim Jones ii ring a bell?

Proverbs 5:4-6 *But in the end she is bitter as wormwood,ⁱⁱⁱ Sharp as a two-edged sword. ^[5] Her feet go down to death; her steps lay hold of Sheol. ^[6] She does not ponder the path of life; her ways are unstable, she does not know it.*

- **God’s Word says this woman is as bitter as _____ and has become like “one who has turned away from the truth” (**zuwr**).**

Wormwood refers to the plant known as Artemisia absinthium. It is noted for its intense bitterness, The use of the Hebrew word la`anah, **lah-an-aw**; creates in the mind a word picture that yields a type of bitterness, one of affliction, remorse, and punitive suffering. The plant grows copiously along rocky paths, a weed that tangles the feet of the traveler.

- Because she no longer ponders the _____ she travels, her deception is like that of the pied piper; who leads those who follow in her footsteps, down to _____.
2nd Peter 2:20-21 *And when people escape from the wicked ways of the world by learning about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up with sin and become its slave again, they are worse off than before. ^[21] It would be better if they had never known the right way to live than to*

know it and then reject the holy commandments that were given to them. ^[NLT]

Compiler's note: The Book of Hebrews renders this dire warning to those who "blaspheme God's Holy Spirit. Hebrews 6:4-6 *For it is impossible to restore to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, ^[5] who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ^[6] and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people to repentance again because they are nailing the Son of God to the cross again by rejecting him, holding him up to public shame.* ^[NLT] And while it is not for us to know the dividing point or the extents that a saved person must go to commit that blasphemy, it is best that we never even approach that precipice.

Hebrews 10:26 reads, *For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,* ^[NASB]

Notice carefully the phrase "*if we go on sinning willfully*", it is a choice or a lifestyle that we choose to continue, ignoring the conviction of His indwelling Holy Spirit. And Just so that we are clear on the meaning of what constitutes a sin, James 4:17 gives us a clear definition. *Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.* ^[NASB]

Christian Friend, if you are involved in this type of lifestyle, stop it, repent, and thank Him for the forgiveness of your waywardness before it is too late. Then turn to our indwelling Holy Spirit and pray heartfelt words like this. "Holy Spirit; I choose to set my mind on spiritual things and not the things of this world. I ask for protection from any distraction that would keep me from Your Word and obedience to Your Word. Help me to keep an open heart and mind, one that harkens to Your voice. Holy Spirit of God, be my teacher, cause Your Word to be alive in me. I further agree with Romans 12:1&2 and offer myself - totally and completely. Take me and use me, have Your own way. Teach me to hate sin as You hate sin, to love others as You love them. I have repented of any transgressions of Your will, and I submit my

mind to course correction and renewing that will make me more like Jesus, into whose image I am being renewed.

If you have sincerely prayed words like those above, then God has placed His Holy Spirit within you and you are now *baptized with His Spirit*. He has given you a new nature which is filled with the fruit of the Spirit and endowed you with certain gifts, all of which will work toward renewing your flesh-trained mind, making you more and more like the person of Christ.

Proverbs 5:7-11: *Now then, my sons, listen to me, and do not depart from the words of my mouth. ^[8] Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house, ^[9] Lest you give your vigor to others, and your years to the cruel one; ^[10] Lest strangers be filled with your strength, and your hard-earned goods go to the house of an alien; ^[11] And you groan at your latter end, when your flesh and your body are consumed;*

- The passage has meaning for the factual encounter with a wayward woman as well as the figurative implications that we have been discussing. Rampant in the world, adult immune decency syndrome or "AIDS", along with two hundred and thirty-one known venereal diseases. These diseases are preventable only one way; by **not ing** from the principles contained in the Word of God. Avoid sexual encounters apart from the confines of the marriage bed. The word abstinence has become so arcane in our society, as well as worldwide, that the odds are against those who philander to remain disease free.

Proverbs 5:12-14: *And you say, "How I have hated instruction! And my heart spurned reproof! ^[13] "And I have not listened to the voice of my teachers, nor inclined my ear to my instructors! ^[14] "I was **almost** in utter **ruin** in the midst of the assembly and congregation."*

- Recall that in Chapter four, as we dealt with the subject concerning detours off the narrow way? Well, this young fellow tried a detour and found that his life was

_____ in utter _____. God is painting a word picture for us to follow; His instructions in His word are good. Our teacher is the Holy Spirit that indwells each of us. We need to _____ to His instruction and course correction. John 14:26 *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.* [NASB]

Proverbs 5:15-17 ***Drink** water from your own cistern, and fresh water from your own well. ^[16] Should your springs be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? ^[17] Let them be yours **alone**, and not for strangers with you.*

➤ When I lived in farm country, the local interpretation or colloquial expression of this passage would be something like, "a man should plow with his own mule." Solomon says "_____ from your own well. Paul is a little more forward than Solomon, where he calls a spade a spade in 1st Thessalonians 4:3-5; *For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; ^[4] that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ^[5] not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;* [NASB]

➤ The Word is clear on this point "Let them be yours _____" and the New Covenant agrees: Peter writes 1st Peter 3:7 *In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat her with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal **partner in God's gift of new life.** If you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not be heard.*

Compiler's notes: One of the gifts of God to any family is that of **New Life, our children.** God wants us to cherish them as much as He cherishes those of us that are His. God does not want us men sowing wild oats. Children from a stray encounter do not honor God's gift, and the odds are stacked

against the youngster growing up honorably without the example of a complete family of his own.

Proverbs 5:18-19 *let your fountain be blessed and rejoice in the wife of your youth. ^[19] As a loving hind and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; Be **exhilarated** always with her love.*

- **God is our Designer, He understands the power of the male sex drive, especially in a young person. Sex is not evil, dirty, or immoral when it is contained within the confines of the marriage bed. In truth, God's word sanctifies sexual relations between a husband and the wife to the highest level of virtue. The problems and thus the detours off God's narrow path begin when we allow our minds to fantasies of lustful passions about another, rather than focus and be _____ by the love of our wives.**

The new covenant writer to the book of Hebrews writes in 13:4; *Let marriage be held in honor among all and let the marriage bed be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.* ^[NASB]

Proverbs 5:20: *for why should you, my son, be **exhilarated** with an adulteress, and embrace the bosom of a **foreigner**?*

- **God is asking us a spiritual question through Solomon, who is asking a physical question of his son. The question is a redundant one, and I honestly believe one that mystifies God our Designer: Why would some humans make such bizarre choices? Why are some, so quick to follow a deceiver onto the detour that leads to destruction, when our Creator has provided abundantly and protects those that are truly His? Those who make this choice turn abruptly onto the detour and are seemingly _____, giving obeisance to some religious zealot, who is either an adulteress (**zuwr**; "one who has turned away from the truth"), or a _____ ("**Nokriy**"; one who has never known the way of true Christian living).**

Proverbs 5:21: For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He watches all his paths.

- For the Lord sees clearly what a man does, examining every path he takes. Back in the days when I was a Pastor, I experienced behavior that is very revealing of our old natural human nature. Every now and again, someone (occasionally, even a parishioner) would slip out a foul word, usually when expressing anger or frustration; then they would look at me, and would immediately apologize. They apologized to me. Yet, there seemed to be no thought of having offended our Creator and Designer; the One *who sees clearly the _____ of a man, and what that man does* are always before His _____.

Proverbs 5:22-23; *His own iniquities will capture the wicked, and he will be held with the cords of his sin.* ^[23] *He will die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly, he will go astray.* ^[NASB]

- The sinner allows his own sins to hold him captive by the _____ of his free will choices. He chooses to ignore the calling and conviction of God's Spirit. John 16:8 "**And He [God's Holy Spirit], when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment;**" ^[NASB]

Again, I hear the objection of someone saying, "Yeah, but what about the fellow in Pango-Pango, who has never heard the gospel?' ` Will God Judge and condemn him? After all, it is not his fault that he never heard the Word!"

God's word has this to say through the apostle Paul, and God says it loud and clear! *Because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.* ^[20] *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power, and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, **so that they are without excuse.*** ^[21] *For even though they knew God, they did not*

honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Romans 1:19-21 [NASB]

"... and in the greatness of his folly, he will go astray" Proverbs 5:23 [NASB]

We will conclude this chapter with the counsel Peter offers in 1st Peter 1:17: *And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites when he judges. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time as *foreigners here on earth.* [NLT]

[***paroikia, par-oy-kee'-ah, a** foreign residence, sojourning, as strangers.]

Compiler's opinion: Earth is like God's boarding school. Here He is preparing us to spend an eternity with Him in heaven. Consider earth to be like finishing school used to train young folks proper etiquette and manners, suitable to high society. As we clothe ourselves in the righteousness of Christ, we are being taught to think, talk, and act more and more like Jesus, who is God's standard of acceptability.

ⁱ Proverbs 2:16-17 *To deliver you from the strange [zuwr]woman, From the adulteress [nokriy] who flatters with her words; ^[17] That leaves the companion of her youth, And forgets the covenant of her God;* [NASB]

ⁱⁱ James Warren "Jim" Jones (May 13, 1931 – November 18, 1978) was the founder and leader of the Peoples Temple, which is best known for the November 18, 1978 death of more than 900 Temple members in Jonestown, Guyana along with the deaths of nine other people at a nearby airstrip and in Georgetown, Guyana. He began with the Word and drew his flock head long over the precipice of death with poison.

ⁱⁱⁱ Wormwood is native to temperate regions of Eurasia and northern Africa. It is an herbaceous perennial plant, with a hard, woody rhizome. The plant grows naturally on uncultivated, arid ground, on rocky slopes, and at the edge of footpaths and fields. The leaves produce minute oil glands; the plant's characteristic odor can make it useful for making a plant spray against pests. It is often used in the practice of companion planting, because of the secretions of its roots; it exerts an inhibiting effect on the growth of surrounding plants, thus weeds. It can be useful to repel insect larvae but it need only be planted on the edge of the area of cultivation. It has also been used to repel fleas and moths indoors.

If you have comments, questions, or additional insight, please contact me through Email at Evangelist GregDeans1@gmail.com and I will be more than pleased to answer any inquiries.