

**GOD'S WISDOM FOR LIFE, PART 7:  
"BE CAPTIVATED BY LOVE"**

**Proverbs 5:1-23**

Ps. John Eom

*Be captivated by permitted love,  
not by the lies of forbidden pleasure.*

**I. Keep your discretion sharp against adultery's deception (1-6)**

<sup>1</sup> My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding, <sup>2</sup> that you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, <sup>4</sup> but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. <sup>5</sup> Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; <sup>6</sup> she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it.

**II. Keep your fight far away from that door (7-14)**

<sup>7</sup> And now, O sons, listen to me, and do not depart from the words of my mouth. <sup>8</sup> Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house, <sup>9</sup> lest you give your honor to others and your years to the merciless, <sup>10</sup> lest strangers take their fill of your strength, and your labors go to the house of a foreigner, <sup>11</sup> and at the end of your life you groan, when your flesh and body are consumed,

<sup>12</sup> and you say, "How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof! <sup>13</sup> I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my instructors. <sup>14</sup> I am at the brink of utter ruin in the assembled congregation."

**III. Keep yourself exclusive for your spouse (15-20)**

<sup>15</sup> Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. <sup>16</sup> Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? <sup>17</sup> Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you.

<sup>18</sup> Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, <sup>19</sup> a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love. <sup>20</sup> Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?

**IV. Keep watch over all your habits (21-23)**

<sup>21</sup> For a man's ways are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths. <sup>22</sup> The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is held fast in the cords of his sin. <sup>23</sup> He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is led astray.