

2/14/2021

The Proverbs Series

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## **Sheol-Aid**

**Proverbs 5:1-23** <sup>1</sup>My son, pay attention to my wisdom; incline your ear to my insight, <sup>2</sup>that you may maintain discretion and your lips may preserve knowledge. <sup>3</sup>Though the lips of the forbidden woman drip honey and her speech is smoother than oil, <sup>4</sup>in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a double-edged sword. <sup>5</sup>Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to Sheol. <sup>6</sup>She does not consider the path of life; she does not know that her ways are unstable. <sup>7</sup>So now, my sons, listen to me, and do not turn aside from the words of my mouth. <sup>8</sup>Keep your path far from her; do not go near the door of her house, <sup>9</sup>lest you concede your vigor to others, and your years to one who is cruel; <sup>10</sup>lest strangers feast on your wealth, and your labors enrich the house of a foreigner. <sup>11</sup>At the end of your life you will groan when your flesh and your body are spent, <sup>12</sup>and you will 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 mentors. <sup>14</sup>I am on the brink of utter ruin in the midst of the whole assembly.” <sup>15</sup>Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well. <sup>16</sup>Why should your springs flow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? <sup>17</sup>Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. <sup>18</sup>May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth: <sup>19</sup>A loving doe, a graceful fawn— may her breasts satisfy you always; may you be captivated by her love forever. <sup>20</sup>Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress, or embrace the bosom of a stranger? <sup>21</sup>For a man’s ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and the LORD examines all his paths. <sup>22</sup>The iniquities of a wicked man entrap him; the cords of his sin entangle him. <sup>23</sup>He dies for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. Proverbs illustrates the need for repetition, restatements, and compare and contrast teaching when instructing our **children**. V.1-2
- B. We are warned against getting **tricked** into sin by seductive words. V. 3-4
- C. The allure of the **forbidden** leads to the grave. V. 5-7
- D. The best approach is to **flee** from this type of temptation. V.8-11
- E. We must **listen** to those who are trying to help us to be godly. V.12-14
- F. Immorality is compared to drinking **polluted** water. V.15-17
- G. Faithfulness to our **spouse** is compared to drinking pure, clean, refreshing water. V.18-19
- H. We must **live** for the audience of one, our God Jehovah-Yahweh. V.20-23

## II. What can we learn from this passage?

**A.** We need to make an effort to be **creative** when instructing our children and others who are within our realm of influence.

**B.** Never make major life **choices** out of impulse, anger, or under the influence of flattering words.

**C.** Unconfessed and unrepented sin will **destroy** our faith. Without faith no one is saved.

**D.** Never **justify** sin by blaming others. We are responsible for our own choices.

**E.** We must stay within our **safety** zones that God has promised to bless us in.

**F.** Remember that God is **watching** and we will be held accountable for everything we do and say.

**Hebrews 4:13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight; everything is uncovered and exposed before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (BSB)