

A Study of the Wisdom Literature **(OT Survey Lesson 286—Warnings About Adultery)**

Introduction: Solomon warns of a number of moral dangers in the proverbs; but the father-son talks found in the first section contain numerous special warnings concerning the sin of adultery.

Lesson aim: To warn of the dangers of adultery

Wisdom delivers one from the immoral woman—Prov. 2:16-18

1. From whom does the wise man say wisdom will deliver one? (2:16)
How does he describe the adulteress' method of seduction? What is her attitude toward her marriage?
2. What is the destiny of the one who follows the adulteress? (2:18-19)

A wise father's counsel to a son concerning immorality—Prov. 5:1-14

1. How does Solomon describe the attractiveness of the immoral woman's speech? (5:3) Yet, how does he describe it in terms of its outcome? (5:4) Where does her steps lead? (5:5) Does she know the consequences of her actions? (5:6)
2. What advice does Solomon give the young about the immoral woman? (5:8) What consequences can one expect who allows himself to be enticed by her? (5:9-11) What will the man say who finds himself ensnared in the consequences of adultery? (5:12-14)
3. How can one prevent being enticed by adulteress? (5:15-20) In addition to the consequences of adultery, what other thing should cause one to avoid immoral behavior? (5:21-23)

A father appeals to his son to recognize the consequences of immorality—Prov. 6:20-35

1. What does the wise father urge his son to do? (6:20-23) From whom will this keep him? (6:24)

2. To what does he urge his son not to allow himself to be attracted? (6:25)
Why? (6:26)
3. How does the wise man impress the inevitability of punishment to the man who involves himself in immorality? (6:27-29)
4. How do men generally respond to the thief? (6:30-31) Yet what happens to the man who “steals” another man’s wife? (6:32-35)

A father describes a foolish young man enticed by an adulteress—Prov. 7:1-27

1. What qualities must one acquire to avoid falling prey to the adulterous woman? (7:1-5)
2. What did Solomon see as he looked out his window? (7:6-9) What characteristics of the immoral woman does he describe? (7:10-14) What does she intend to say by her remarks about “peace offerings”?
3. What does the woman use to lure the young man to her house? (7:15-21)
4. What does Solomon say is the outcome of the man’s decisions to follow her? (7:22-23) What warning does he issue? (7:24-27)

Miscellaneous proverbs concerning adultery

1. How does Solomon describe the adulteress? (22:14) What kind of people will fall into it?
2. What metaphors are used to describe the harlot? (23:26-28) Why do you think these figures are used? To what else is she compared? What are the consequences of those who are enticed by her?
3. What characteristic of the immoral woman is being described in 30:20?