

PROVERBS 7:1-27 - MESSAGE

Make Yahweh your shield to guard against sin's crafty, deadly schemes

Proverbs 7:6-23

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a. The victim (6-9)
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b. The huntress (10-12)
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"The best advice is useless against strong temptation unless it is thoroughly taken to heart and translated into habits"

(Derek Kidner, *Proverbs*, p. 75-76)

Proverbs 7:1-27

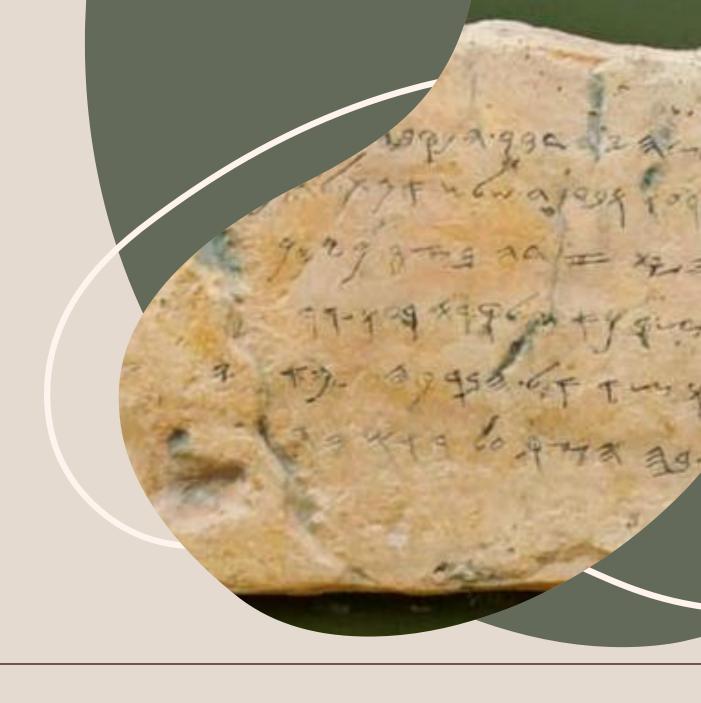
- I. Engage Lady Wisdom to guard you from the temptress (1-5)
- II. Consider this case study of a temptress and her victim (6-23)
 - A. The victim (6-9)
 - B. The huntress (10-12)
 - **C.** The tactics (13-21)
 - D. The kill (22-23)
- III. Be warned: the temptress is the gateway to death (24-27)

Prov 7:3

Bind on your fingers = memorize and review frequently; keep always before you

Write on the tablet of your heart = meditation

You want wisdom to influence and guide your thoughts and actions



Proverbs 7:7

Simple...among the sons

• "refers to the young men who refused to make commitments to wisdom before entering the city and so are easy prey to the wicked" (Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs*, I:371)



Sin's tactics in Proverbs 7

- ❖Sin takes advantage of those who don't use God's wisdom
- Sin convinces us that our behavior can remain hidden
- ❖ Alone, we are no match for sin
- ❖Sin looks for an opportunity to pounce (Gen 4:7)
- ❖Sin knows how to get our attention
- ❖Sin knows just how to render us powerless
- Sin tells us that outward religion can co-exist with sinful behavior
- Sin flatters our ego so we'll let our guard down
- Sin promises it will be worth it by giving what you want most
- ❖Sin presses you to proceed

Proverbs 7:8

Strides

Walk that is intentional and pompous

• Ignorant of danger and foolishly selfconfident that he can take care of himself

He knows better



Proverbs 7:10

Lacking heart (7:7)

Lacking insight, judgment, understanding

• Lacks the character of wisdom

Cunning of heart

- Lit., "guarded in heart"
- Hiding her real intentions
- Thus crafty, sly, wily
- Having a hidden agenda



Sin's tactics in Proverbs 7 (cont.)

- ❖Sin promises to satisfy your felt needs
- Sin gives you false assurances
- Sin succeeds using a full arsenal of crafty schemes
- ❖Sin presses us, "don't think, just leap!"