

Proverbs 5:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding:

Analysis

Attending to understanding requires intellectual engagement with wisdom. The Hebrew 'binah' (understanding) denotes discernment between truth and error, right and wrong. This chapter's warnings against adultery demonstrate wisdom's application to the most powerful human drives, showing no area of life falls outside God's moral governance.

Historical Context

Solomon's warning gains poignancy given his own later failure with foreign wives (1 Kings 11:1-13). Even God-given wisdom must be continuously applied through grace-enabled obedience, or it provides no protection.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you apply biblical wisdom to your sexuality and relationships?
2. What areas of desire most challenge your commitment to godly self-control?

Interlinear Text

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| בִּי | לְחִכְמָתִי | הִקְשׁ יָבֵה | לְתַבּוּנָתִי | הֵט | אֲזִנְךָ: |
| My son | unto my wisdom | attend | to my understanding | and bow | thine ear |
| H1121 | H2451 | H7181 | H8394 | H5186 | H241 |

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 22:17 (Parallel theme): Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge.

Proverbs 2:1 (Parallel theme): My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

Proverbs 4:20 (Parallel theme): My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Revelation 2:17 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Revelation 3:13 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 2:11 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Mark 4:23 (Parallel theme): If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

James 1:19 (Parallel theme): Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

Proverbs 4:1 (Parallel theme): Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.