

Proverbs 5:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;

Analysis

Strangers will be filled with your wealth and your labors go to a foreigner's house. The economic consequences of adultery are severe - everything you work for enriches others. The Hebrew 'zur' (stranger/outsider) appears twice, emphasizing that what should benefit your household instead benefits those with no legitimate claim. Sexual sin has financial devastation, not just moral/relational costs.

Historical Context

Ancient society's economic unit was the household/family. Adultery could result in divorce, loss of inheritance, payment of restitution. Everything earned through honest labor could be forfeited through moral failure. The stranger/foreigner benefiting adds insult to injury - those outside covenant community profit from covenant breaker's folly.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What economic or practical consequences might result from sexual immorality you're contemplating?
2. How does considering the 'stranger' who benefits from your folly help resist temptation?
3. What labor/wealth should you ensure benefits your household rather than outsiders?

Interlinear Text

בְּבַתְּךָ יְהִי שְׁבָעַ וָשָׁבָעַ וְשָׁבָעַ
H6435 be filled H7646 Lest strangers H2114 with thy wealth H3581 and thy labours H6089 be in the house H1004

תְּכַרְּבֵי:
of a stranger
H5237

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 31:3 (Parallel theme): Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.

Proverbs 6:35 (Parallel theme): He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

Hosea 7:9 (Parallel theme): Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.