

Proverbs 5:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

Analysis

The strange woman's seduction operates through deceptive speech—honey-sweet words concealing deadly consequences. This illustrates sin's fundamental pattern: promising pleasure while delivering death. Only God's word provides accurate assessment of sin's true nature and eternal ramifications.

Historical Context

Ritual prostitution was common in Canaanite fertility cults, making this temptation culturally prevalent. Solomon warns against both sexual immorality and religious apostasy, often intertwined in ancient Near Eastern contexts.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What contemporary temptations disguise themselves with initially pleasant appearances?
2. How can you develop discernment to see through sin's deceptive promises?

Interlinear Text

וְכִי	נִפְתָּח	תְּטַפְּנָה	שְׁפֵתִים	בְּהַרְבָּה	וְכַל
H3588	as an honeycomb	woman drop	For the lips	of a strange	is smoother
H5317		H5197	H8193	H2114	H2509
מַשְׁתַּחַת	מִשְׁתַּחַת				
than oil	and her mouth				
H8081		H2441			

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 2:16 (Parallel theme): To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words;

Psalms 55:21 (Parallel theme): The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

Proverbs 7:5 (Parallel theme): That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words.

Proverbs 7:21 (Parallel theme): With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

Proverbs 6:24 (Parallel theme): To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.