

Proverbs 5:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:

Analysis

Remove your way far from the adulteress, and don't come near her house's door. The imperatives demand radical avoidance - don't merely resist but flee. Joseph's example (Gen 39) demonstrates this wisdom - when faced with sexual temptation, he fled. The specific mention of her door emphasizes avoiding even proximity to temptation. This reflects Reformed understanding that humans are weak; therefore wisdom requires not testing oneself but avoiding danger.

Historical Context

Reflects ancient social structure where visiting a woman's home in her husband's absence created opportunity and suspicion. The command recognizes human weakness requiring environmental safeguards, not just willpower.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'doors' do you need to avoid coming near because they present temptation?

2. How can you structure your life to make righteousness easy and sin difficult?

Interlinear Text

הָרַחֵק	מִמַּעַל יָהּ	דֶּרֶךְ גַּ	וְאַל	תִּקְרַב	אֶל	פֶּתַח
Remove	H5921	thy way	H408	from her and come not nigh	H413	the door
H7368		H1870		H7126		H6607
בֵּיתָהּ:						
of her house						
H1004						

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 7:25 (Parallel theme): Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

Ephesians 5:11 (Parallel theme): And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Matthew 6:13 (Parallel theme): And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Proverbs 4:15 (Parallel theme): Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.