

Proverbs 6:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

Analysis

Wisdom keeps you from the evil woman, from the flattery of the foreign tongue. The Hebrew 'shamar' (keep/preserve) and 'chelqah' (flattery/smoothness) describe protective function and seductive danger. The 'strange woman' represents both literal sexual temptation and metaphorical enticement away from covenant faithfulness. Wisdom provides moral immunity against seduction's power. What seems irresistibly attractive loses appeal when wisdom reveals true cost.

Historical Context

Proverbs 5-7's extended adultery warnings addressed both literal sexual temptation and spiritual adultery (idolatry). Foreign women often introduced foreign gods (Solomon's downfall - 1 Kings 11:1-8). Flattering speech characterized both sexual seducers and false prophets. Wisdom exposes both. Ezra-Nehemiah's post-exilic concern about intermarriage reflected this ongoing danger.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What 'flattering tongue' currently tempts you away from godly commitments?
2. How does wisdom help you resist temptations that seem irresistibly appealing?
3. What foreign influences (non-biblical worldviews) need to be recognized as seductive dangers?

Interlinear Text

לְשׁוֹן מִשְׁמָרָת מִשְׁמָרָת מִשְׁמָרָת מִשְׁמָרָת
To keep woman thee from the evil from the flattery of the tongue

H8104

H802

H7451

H2513

H3956

תְּכַרְחֵה:

of a strange woman

H5237

Additional Cross-References

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

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

Proverbs 5:3 (Parallel theme): For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

Ecclesiastes 7:26 (Parallel theme): And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her.