

# Proverbs 7:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

## Analysis

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Let not your heart turn to her ways; don't stray into her paths. The Hebrew 'satah' (turn aside/deviate) and 'ta'ah' (err/wander) warn against directional departure. Heart-turning precedes foot-wandering. First internal desire, then external action. Guard the heart, and behavior follows. Proverbs 4:23 commands: 'Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.' Heart purity produces life purity.

## Historical Context

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Biblical anthropology consistently teaches that heart condition determines life direction. Jesus taught: 'Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh' (Matthew 12:34) and 'From within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts' (Mark 7:21). Behavior modification without heart transformation fails. True change requires renewed hearts producing renewed lives.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. What heart 'turnings' toward temptation precede behavioral compromise in your life?
2. How can you guard your heart more carefully to prevent behavioral wandering?
3. What practices cultivate heart affections aligned with God's ways rather than sin's ways?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל	! שָׁטָה	אֶל	דְּרַךְ יְהוָה	לִבְךָ	אֶל	תֵּת אַסְרָה
H408	decline	H413	to her ways	Let not thine heart	H408	go not astray
	H7847		H1870	H3820		H8582

בְּנִתְיֹבוֹתֶיהָ:

in her paths

H5410

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 5:8** (Parallel theme): Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:

**Isaiah 53:6** (Parallel theme): All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**Proverbs 6:25** (Parallel theme): Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids.