

Proverbs 7:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

Analysis

The path to sin is described as passing 'near her corner' and taking 'the way to her house.' Sin rarely happens instantly; it begins with proximity and small compromises. The Reformed understanding of progressive sanctification recognizes that we must avoid the path to sin, not just the act itself. Joseph fled from Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39:12), exemplifying this wisdom. This verse teaches that victory over temptation often means avoiding situations where we're vulnerable, not trusting our strength when already near danger.

Historical Context

Ancient cities' narrow streets and courtyards made privacy difficult. 'Her corner' likely refers to known locations where prostitutes solicited customers, making avoidance a conscious choice requiring altered routes.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What 'corners' or situations do you need to avoid rather than trusting your ability to resist temptation?
2. How does understanding sin's progressive nature change your approach to holy living?
3. In what areas of life are you 'near the corner' when you should be far from it?

Interlinear Text

עֲבֹר	בִּשְׁוֹק	אֶצֶל	פֶּנֶה הַ	וְדֶרֶךְ	בֵּית הַ	וַיֵּצֵא:
Passing through	the street	near	H6438	the way	to her house	and he went
H5674	H7784	H681		H1870	H1004	H6805

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