

**The Hunter and The Hunted**  
**Proverbs 6:20-7:27**  
**Berean Baptist Church**  
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**INTRODUCTION**

The previous discussion in Proverbs (6:1-19) ended with God's hatred for the "sower of discord." This next discussion (6:20-7:27) explains why this sin is so grievous and shows the dangers of the worst example. But we also see how Wisdom can protect us from sin and destruction.

*Use Wisdom to defend yourself and others from the sin that hunts you!*

**Proverbs 6:20-23 The Lifestyle Of Wisdom And Its Benefits**

**Vs 20** The lifestyle of Wisdom is learned through the words of a godly mother and father. Teaching and disciplining children are not just one parent's job.

*The idea that just the dad should do the disciplining, or that it is just mom's job to teach the kids good manners is unbiblical. Both parents should provide love and correction.*

*The women in Proverbs are never passive. They are always very good, or very bad. The good women of Proverbs are industrious teachers who bring honor to their husbands and joy to their home. The bad woman of Proverbs is stubborn, contentious and unfaithful who lead the simple to destruction.*

**Vs 21-23** The goal of this teaching is a lifestyle of Wisdom. Wisdom leads you, Wisdom protects you when you sleep, and she provides counsel and friendship when you are awake.

**Vs 23** Wisdom is lamp, light, and life!

**Proverbs 6:24-35 The Power of Wisdom to Protect Against Evil Influence**

**Vs 24** The "evil woman" could stand for any bad influence, and especially those who lead others to infidelity. The bad influences tongue is literally "smooth" and she is very attractive. The disaster that follows infidelity starts in the heart, and so Wisdom seeks to stop it there while it is still small.

**Vs 26** The path of infidelity leads to extreme poverty and will eventually endanger your own life.

**Vs 27-29** Whether we like it or not, actions have consequences. Much of Wisdom is simply the ability to see the consequences of your actions and avoid bad decisions.

**Proverbs 6:30-35 The Reason Why Infidelity is so Dangerous**

**Vs 30-31** People have sympathy for other kinds of sins, especially when done out of desperation. The thief is still wrong, and will end up worse, not better. But he may find sympathy and a way to make things right, but...

**Vs 32-35** infidelity creates lasting discord. It is a special kind of sin that is not easily forgotten (32). It causes jealous rage that cannot be bought off (34-35).

*Proverbs 6:16-19 "These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him...he that soweth discord among brethren."*

Infidelity is so dangerous because it creates lasting discord that makes reconciliation nearly impossible,

and God hates this.

### **Proverbs 7:1-4 (6:20-23) The lifestyle of Wisdom and its benefits**

**Vs 1-4** The lifestyle of Wisdom requires internal and external commitments to keeping wise instruction. "Apple of thine eye" refers to the pupil, the dark circle as the center of your eye-ball: how diligently do you protect that part of your eye?

### **Proverbs 7:6-23 A Real World Example**

A drama unfolds...

**Vs 5-9 the simple victim** walks to his destruction, he lacks discernment and so walks "In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night." Recall 6:23! If only he had a lamp, a light; if only he knew the way of life!

*Play game, read a verse, apply Wisdom...*

**Vs 13** The hunter is very bold but cagey enough to use soft power. "impudent face" literally means strong-face. The idea of Vs 13 is that she is very persuasive. Prov 25:15.

**Vs 14** "peace offerings" and "vows" both point to worshiping God in the temple or Tabernacle. *Sometimes after worship, there would be leftover food and drink enjoyed in a meal. She may be tempting him with the promise of a meal at home, but it is hard to pin down exactly what she is implying. Why does she still have her peace offerings, even if she has paid her vows?*

Note that the hunter claims to be religious her every action refutes this. The simple is too blind to see her obvious hypocrisy.

*"The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going. (Prov 14:15)"*

*Don't just believe what people say; watch where they go and notice where they want to lead you.!*

**Vs 15** She makes her prey feel special but he is just one of many victims

*"A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin. (Pr 26:28)"*

*Don't be taken by people just because they say nice things about you!*

**Vs 16-18** The hunter promises pleasure, and she will deliver pleasure...and disgrace, and death.

*"Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterward his mouth shall be filled with gravel. (Pr 20:17)"*

*Know that sin's momentary pleasures will cost you lasting sorrow and disgrace!*

**Vs 19-20** and tries to put the consequences out of mind. The "good man" is literally just "the man."  
"The man, my husband, is not at home and won't be back any time soon."

But he will be back and if the simple had Wisdom he would foresee the consequences of his actions.

*"A prudent man foresees the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished. (Prov 22:3)."*

*Do not ignore consequences! You will reap what you sow!*

**Vs 21-23** Notice the power of the hunter's words. She has wealth and beauty, but it is her speech that is most deadly to the simple.

This is why the words of Wisdom are so important. The war between Wisdom and folly, life and death, is a war of words. Temptation from without and rationalizing from within all take the form of words.

*You, and those you love, are being hunted. Arm yourself with the words of Wisdom!*

### **Proverbs 7:24-27 (6:30-35) The Danger of Infidelity**

This is military language used to describe wounded soldiers being finished off and strong fighters being beaten. The sweet, kind, attractive woman turns out to be a stone cold killer!

### **CONCLUSION**

The need for Wisdom is not academic, it is a matter of life and death! Temptation crouches ready to pounce, but Wisdom protects those who depend on her!

*Use Wisdom to defend yourself and others from the sin that hunts you!*