

## Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

### (#160) The Proverbs of Solomon 22:14- Free Sex, Or Dumb Ox?

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and **Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34** are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**), or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

#### **Proverbs 22:14:**

The mouth of an immoral woman is a deep pit; He who is abhorred by the LORD will fall there.

A woman who has no respect for a man's soul or God's rules for purity in marriage, misleads with her mouth, for she may be "loud and rebellious," free with her kisses, and full of false promises (**Proverbs 7:10-14**). She is a "deep pit" for she can take a man down in sin further than he may be able to recover. Solomon already warned men not to listen to the overtures of "an immoral woman." The words of Solomon, if heeded, would keep men far enough away from the "immoral woman" that he could not see nor hear her temptations. According to other proverbs:

- For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, and her mouth *is* smoother than oil; but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps lay hold of hell. Lest you ponder *her* path of life- her ways are unstable; you do not know *them*. (**Proverbs 5:3-6**)
- With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, with her flattering lips she seduced him. Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks. (**Proverbs 7:21-22**)
- Remove your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house. (**Proverbs 5:8**)
- For a harlot *is* a deep pit, and a seductress *is* a narrow well. She also lies in wait as *for* a victim, and increases the unfaithful among men. (**Proverbs 23:27-28**)

The depiction of a "seductress" being a "narrow well" shows the difficulty, or the impossibility, of a man climbing out of the darkness into which he has fallen. That she is aggressive ("lies in wait") means that the man needs to be on the defensive, protecting himself against the Devil's temptation.

***All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.***



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Men can sin in their hearts just by looking ([Matthew 5:27-28](#)), so women who dress provocatively are responsible for leading men astray in their thoughts. God teaches Christian women to be selective, sensitive, and serene in their choice of clothing:

In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. ([1 Timothy 2:9-10](#))

Men are seduced by an “immoral woman” who aggressively promises freedom from guilt, indiscriminately kisses, dresses seductively, and gives sexual favors sinfully! Though society seems to build sympathy for indecent, ungodly, and immoral women, the “immoral woman” in the proverb is no victim; instead she victimizes the man!

Those who please God will refuse such a temptation of the flesh, whether in person, screen, television, or magazine:

And I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snares and nets, whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God shall escape from her, but the sinner shall be trapped by her. ([Ecclesiastes 7:26](#))

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