

## **Introduction**

### **1. Review**

- a. Male and Female at creation**
- b. Male and Female united in marriage**
- c. Biblical theological of male and female roles**
- d. Male and female at the fall**

### **2. Preview**

- a. Wisdom of Proverbs on male and female relationships**
- b. Why Proverbs?**
- c. The book of Proverbs focused on behavior and it's consequences**
- d. Mostly from a father/son point of view**
- e. Contrasts between wisdom and folly**
- f. Male and female relationships are a major theme**

**We are going to a quick survey of male and female relationships in 3 categories**

### **A Working in unity- Proverbs 1:8-9**

**8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction,  
and forsake not your mother's teaching,**

**9 for they are a graceful garland for your head  
and pendants for your neck.**

## **Comments-**

- 1. The father and mother are working on the same project in the same way.**
- 2. The father's instruction and the mother's teaching are in Hebrew parallelism. Meaning they are the same.**

## **B. Sexual Temptation- Prov 2:16-19, Prov 5:1-22, Prov 6:20-35, Prov 7:6-27**

### **Prov 2:16-19**

**16 So you will be delivered from the forbidden woman, from the adulteress with her smooth words,  
17 who forsakes the companion of her youth  
and forgets the covenant of her God;  
18 for her house sinks down to death,  
and her paths to the departed;  
19 none who go to her come back,  
nor do they regain the paths of life.**

## **Comments-**

- 1. There is an apparent weakness in the male to be resisted.**
- 2. There is a danger of temptation in the female to be resisted.**
- 3. Both male and female are designed by God to want to experience sexual pleasures.**
- 4. But God's design includes the answer to the who- what-when-where-why questions.**
- 5. All five senses are involved – see-hear-smell-taste-touch.**

### **C. Effects of Spouses on Each Other**

**There are 9 passages- Prov 12:4, Prov 14:1, Prov 17:1, Prov 18:22, Prov 19:13-14, Prov 21:9, Prov 21:19, Prov 27:15-16**

**Prov 12:4 An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,  
but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.**

**Prov 14:1 The wisest of women builds her house,  
but folly with her own hands tears it down.**

**Prov 15:16-18 16 Better is a little with the fear of the Lord  
than great treasure and trouble with it.**

**17 Better is a dinner of herbs where love is  
than a fattened ox and hatred with it.**

**18 A hot-tempered man stirs up strife,  
but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.**

**Prov 17:1 Better is a dry morsel with quiet  
than a house full of feasting with strife.**

**Prov 18:22 He who finds a wife finds a good thing  
and obtains favor from the Lord.**

## **Comments-**

- 1. The family is so close a unity that it can't function where there is strife.**
- 2. A good wife is a gift from the Lord.**
- 3. When I stress out my spouse- I lose the comforts I find in marriage- strife is self-defeating.**

## **A special Text**

**Prov 31:10-31**

### **Evaluation (10)**

**10 An excellent wife who can find?**

**She is far more precious than jewels.**

### **A Result (11-12)**

**11 The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.**

**12 She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.**

### **The Evidence (13-27)**

**13 She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.**

**14 She is like the ships of the merchant;**

**she brings her food from afar.**

**15 She rises while it is yet night**

**and provides food for her household**

**and portions for her maidens.**

**16 She considers a field and buys it;**

**with the fruit of her hands, she plants a vineyard.**

**17 She dresses herself with strength**

**and makes her arms strong.**

**18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.**

**Her lamp does not go out at night.**

**19 She puts her hands to the distaff,**

**and her hands hold the spindle.**

**20 She opens her hand to the poor**

**and reaches out her hands to the needy.**

**She is not afraid of snow for her household,**

**for all her household are clothed in scarlet.**

**22 She makes bed coverings for herself;**

**her clothing is fine linen and purple.**

**23 Her husband is known in the gates**

**when he sits among the elders of the land.**

**24 She makes linen garments and sells them;**

**she delivers sashes to the merchant.**

**25 Strength and dignity are her clothing,**

**and she laughs at the time to come.**

**26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,**

**and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.**

**27 She looks well to the ways of her household**

**and does not eat the bread of idleness.**

### **Renewed Evaluation (28-30)**

**28 Her children rise up and call her blessed;**

**her husband also, and he praises her:**

**29 “Many women have done excellently,**

**but you surpass them all.”**

**30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,**

**but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.**

### **A Reward (31)**

**31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,**

**and let her works praise her in the gates.**