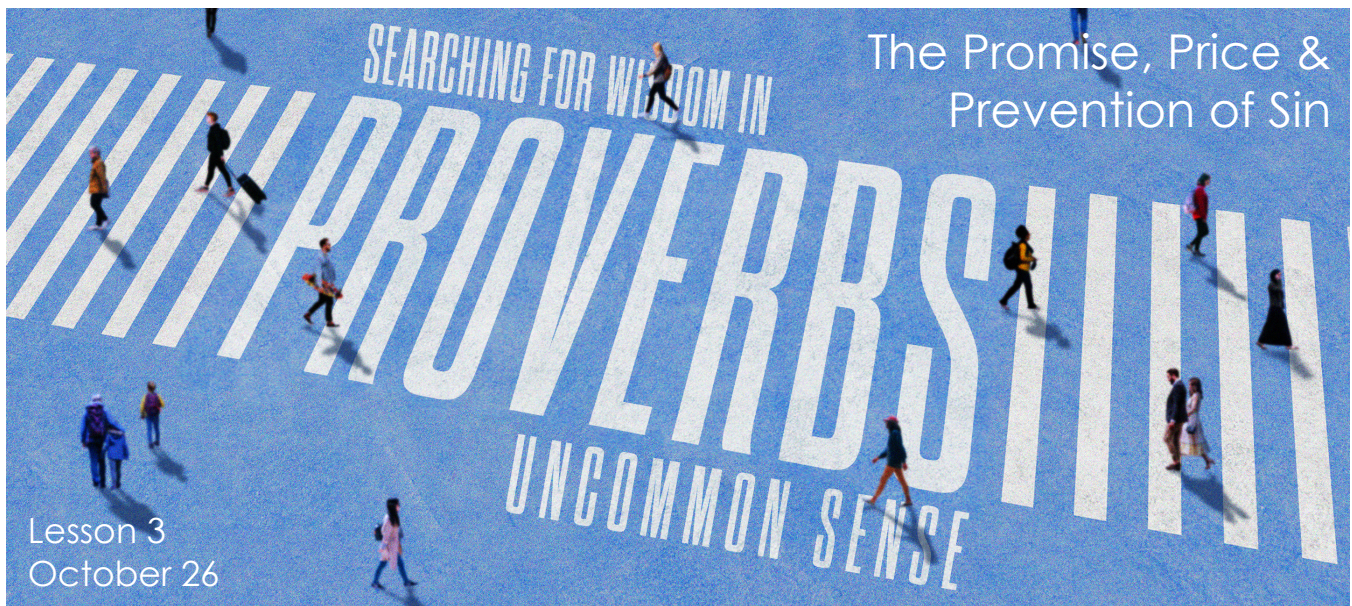




Temptations to walk away from the fear and wisdom of the LORD come with a **PROMISE**.

My son, be attentive to my wisdom;
 incline your ear to my understanding,
 that you may keep discretion,
 and your lips may guard knowledge.
 For the lips of a _____ woman drip honey,
 and her speech is smoother than oil,
 but in the _____ she is bitter as wormwood,
 sharp as a two-edged sword.
 Her feet go down to death;
 her steps follow the path to Sheol;
 she does not _____ the path of life;
 her ways wander, and she does not know it. (Prov 5:1-6)

What sort of promises come with temptations to wander away from the fear of the LORD?

What does wisdom recognize about "smooth words" (2:16; 5:3; 6:24; 7:21)?

The first section of *Proverbs* ends with a comparison of wisdom (8:1-12) and folly (9:13-18) as two women, inviting all to turn and listen. Both are making promises, but there is a terrible **PRICE** attached to following the woman Folly. How can sin cost...

- 🕒 Your honor (5:9a) -
- 🕒 Your years (5:9b) -
- 🕒 Your strength (5:10a) -
- 🕒 Your labors (5:10b) -

- 🕒 Your physical health (5:11) -
- 🕒 Your mental health (5:12-13) -
- 🕒 Your reputation (5:14) -

...all of which leads Solomon to coach us about the **PREVENTION** of sin.

_____ your way far from her,
and do not go near the door of her house... (5:8)

Drink water from your _____ cistern,
flowing water from your own well. (5:15)

Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman
and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?

For a man's ways are _____ the eyes of the LORD,
and he ponders all his paths.

The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him,
and he is held fast in the cords of his sin.

He dies for lack of _____,
and because of his great folly he is led astray. (5:20-23)

Remember, the woman Folly is not the only influence calling out and making promises.
"Does not wisdom call?" (8:1; 9:6). And what have we heard over and over again? "The
_____ of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom" (9:10).

So if we're supposed to fear the LORD, doesn't it make sense that we need to grow to feel
about sin the way God feels about sin? Take a careful look at **Proverbs 6:16-19**. What do
those seven things have in common? Why do you think the LORD hates them? How can we
also grow to hate them in ways that are appropriate and wise?

Proverbs Made Personal

Warning: a message of caution I needed to hear...

Insight: a point I need to remember...

Strength: I was helped and encouraged to walk in wisdom by...

Exalt: God is worthy of honor and praise because...

For next week: read Proverbs 12-13, 16, 18