

Proverbs 7

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

Warnings about the Adulteress

¹My son, keep my words, And lay up my commandments with thee.

²Keep my commandments and live, And my teaching as the apple of thine eye.

³Bind them upon thy fingers, Write them upon the table of thy heart.

⁴Say unto wisdom: 'Thou art my sister', And call understanding thy kinswoman;

⁵That they may keep thee from the strange woman, From the alien woman that maketh smooth her words.

⁶For at the window of my house I looked forth through my lattice;

⁷And I beheld among the thoughtless ones, I discerned among the youths, A young man void of understanding,

⁸Passing through the street near her corner, And he went the way to her house;

9In the twilight, in the evening of the day, In the blackness of night and the darkness.

10And, behold, there met him a woman With the attire of a harlot, and wily of heart.

11She is riotous and rebellious, Her feet abide not in her house;

12Now she is in the streets, now in the broad places, And lieth in wait at every corner.

13So she caught him, and kissed him, And with an impudent face she said unto him:

14Sacrifices of peace-offerings were due from me; This day have I paid my vows.

15Therefore came I forth to meet thee, To seek thy face, and I have found thee.

16I have decked my couch with coverlets, With striped cloths of the yarn of Egypt.

17I have perfumed my bed With myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

18Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning; Let us solace ourselves with loves.

19For my husband is not at home, He is gone a long journey;

20He hath taken the bag of money with him; He will come home at the full moon.'

21With her much fair speech she causeth him to yield, With the blandishment of her lips she enticeth him away.

22He goeth after her straightway, As an ox that goeth to the slaughter, Or as one in fetters to the correction of the fool;

23Till an arrow strike through his liver; As a bird hasteneth to the snare—And knoweth not that it is at the cost of his life.

24Now therefore, O ye children, hearken unto me, And attend to the words of my mouth.

25Let not thy heart decline to her ways, Go not astray in her paths.

26For she hath cast down many wounded; Yea, a mighty host are all her slain.

27Her house is the way to the nether-world, Going down to the chambers of death.