

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."



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George L. Faull, Editor

Who You Courtin'?

-- By George L. Faull

One of our students wondered why a woman is used as a symbol or illustration of wisdom in **Proverbs 8**. God uses a beautiful woman as an illustration of wisdom because He wishes to show that wisdom desires you to court her and find life. On the other hand, God shows His competitor as a whorish, strange woman who seduces fools to her bed and final death. God uses this contrast between two women. We will call them "Miss Wisdom" and "Mrs. Strange".

Let's see the contrast:

Miss Wisdom is highlighted in **Proverbs 1:20-33, 3:13-18, 4:5-13, 8:1-36, 9:1-12.**

Mrs. Strange is highlighted in **Proverbs 2:16-19, 5:3-23, 6:24-35, 7:5-27, 9:13-18.**

Let's See the Contrasts Between Them:

MISS WISDOM

Public Call – 1:20-22, 8:1

In Daylight in the Courts/Gates

Method: Promises are positive, spiritual, and physical advantages – 1:33

Her Speech – Excellent things, right things, truth, righteousness, wickedness abomination to my lips, nothing perverse - 8:6-9

Her Offer Results

Spirit of wisdom
Warns against calamity
Counsel
Reproof
Safety
Calmness
Long life
Riches
Honor
Peace
Happiness
Tree of Life
Promotion of grace
Crown of Glory
Straight paths
Righteousness
Fruit better than gold, silver, rubies

MRS. STRANGE

Private Seduction – 7:6

In Darkness on the Street Corners – 7:7-15

Method: With subtly and flattery offers fleshly desires/pleasures - 7:16-18

Her Speech – Is loud, stubborn, subtle, flattering lies in seduction, vulgarity.

Her Offer Results

Great folly
End as bitter as wormwood
Not obeying the voice of teachers nor instructors
Despises reproof
Held by cords of sins
Anxiety
The grave
Brought down to a piece of bread
Giveth honor to others
Fear of irate husband
Anxiety from being exposed
Eat Fruit of own way
Shame, Contempt
Everlasting agony and dishonor
Cannot take hold of the paths of life
Wickedness
End is destruction

MISS WISDOM**Her Offer Results**

Inherit substance
 Full treasures
 Blessings
 Favor of the Lord
 Life
 Health
 Salvation

MRS. STRANGE**Her Offer Results**

Strangers will get your wealth
 Labors go to strangers
 Cursed of God
 Wrongs his own soul
 Goes down to death
 Flesh and body consumed
 Damnation in Hell

Which Woman are You Courting?

The Lady, Miss Wisdom?

OR

The Adulterous, Mrs. Strange?

At Which Table Do You Feed?

Miss Wisdom's Banquet of Life

OR

Mrs. Strange's Stolen Secret Bread

Remember

Miss Wisdom will laugh at you when your fear
 cometh if you disregard her.

Mrs. Strange will lead you to the grave.

Miss Wisdom is a tree of Life to those who takes
 hold upon her & happy is he that retains her.

Lust not after her beauty, neither let her take thee
 with her eyelids. Her house is the way to Hell
 going down to the chambers of death and many
 strong men have been slain by her.

CONCLUSION: Miss Wisdom says, Proverbs 8:32-36, "32 Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. 33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. 34 Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. 35 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD. 36 But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death."