

# Temptation of Beauty

*Proverbs 5:15-18*

Introduction: Bible has lofty view of husbands and wives  
In ancient culture: women bought, no social status  
Purpose of marriage was social status and children  
But Proverbs says you should be crazy in love

## I. Marriage is Honored By God

Proverbs 5:15-20 Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? Let them be only your own, And not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth.

Protect your relationship: treasure your spouse  
She/He is created for you

Proverbs 30:18-19 There are three *things which* are too wonderful for me, Yes, four *which* I do not understand: The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a maiden.

Awesome to see the ways and powers of romance  
Good couples, strange couples

God created Adam and Eve: bone of my bones, flesh of flesh  
Abraham & Sarah, Isaac Rebecca, Jacob and Rachael/Leah

## II. Commodified Relationships

Proverbs 30:20 This *is* the way of an adulterous woman: She eats and wipes her mouth, And says, "**I have done no wickedness.**"

Commodification: economic exchange between vender & consumer.  
You know your grocer, mechanic but if quality goes down, you find another place.

For history society has been commitment based  
Friends, family, children, marriage: relationship is end in itself  
Living in relationship as a consumer is lonely  
But it becoming more and more common (meet my needs)  
Divorce, pornography, abuse

Bible says marriage is not commodified  
Don't give body w/o giving whole self, whole person part  
The Bible calls it one flesh in marriage

Sex outside of marriage is exchange of product, not of self  
Bible sex not self gratification, self expression, it self donation  
We under value self when we have sex outside of marriage.  
Prov. 11:22 a beautiful woman that lacks discretion is like a gold ring in a pig's snout  
Critique of men: objectify, dehumanize, commodify women.

Pro 11:16 beautiful women obtain wealth (honor), violent men get rich.

Hebrew word for wealth "kabob" meaning glory, significance, importance.

## III. Grow Your Marriage

A. Angela Burrell illustration: Let's make this work

B. Proverbs 30:18-20 wonders of creation like the work of men/women  
Fix up house, get nice car: make you spouse lucky

C. Your relationship is holy  
Eph. 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **26** that He might [a]sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **27** that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish  
Husbands love wives, as Christ loved the church. Husbands and wives: Christ died to make you and spouse beautiful.