

The Enticement of Sinners (Proverbs 1:8-19)

I. Exposition of text: the fear of the LORD keeps us from consenting with sinners and with sin

- A. The prologue (1:1-7) sets the contrast between the wise and the foolish
- B. Verses 8-19 provide the first practical application of the fear of the LORD
 - 1. The fear of the LORD results in listening to godly parental guidance (v8-9; 1 Chronicles 28:9)
 - 2. The fear of the LORD results in resisting temptation to sin (10-19)

II. The deceptive allure of sin and sinners

- A. “Entice” – sin’s flattery (Proverbs 2:9-15)
 - 1. Not obvious, but a trap (v17)
- B. The constant struggle with worldly temptations (1 John 2:15-17; Genesis 3:6)
- C. False friends encourage evil doing
 - 1. Satan (Genesis 3:1-5)
 - 2. Job’s wife (Job 2:9-10)
 - 3. Amnon (2 Samuel 13:1-22)

III. “Do not consent”

- A. We have a simple choice – exercise wisdom or be a fool
- B. Not a denial of God’s sovereignty (James 1:1-18)
- C. Wisdom is manifest simply: avoid sin!
 - 1. Avoid the *first* step (Mark 14:54, 66-72)
 - 2. Practice true separation (Psalm 1:1; 2 Cor 6:14-18)
 - 3. Kindle the right fire

IV. Practical wisdom from this passage of Proverbs

- A. **Remember** simple wisdom (v8-9)
- B. **Consider** sin for what it is (v19)
- C. **Repent** and come to Christ (Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:15)
 - 1. Resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7)
- D. **Desire** God as more worthy (v13)
 - 1. Draw near to God and he will draw near (James 4:8)