

**Proverbs 7 — "The Highway To Hell!"**

To win, you must know your enemy! To be ignorant of yourself or your enemy always places yourself in danger!

Many of the seventeenth-century Puritans also emphasized the importance of knowing the enemy and his tactics when they approached the subject of spiritual warfare. For instance, in his Precious Remedies against Satan's Devices, Thomas Brooks highlighted "the essentials" of spiritual warfare: "Christ, the Scripture, your own hearts, and Satan's devices, are the four prime things that should be first and most studied and searched. If any cast off the study of these, they cannot be safe here, nor happy hereafter." (Nicholas Batzig)

Dire issues in our day:

- 1) Wisdom that is timeless, tested & true.
  - 2) Self-control in the face of opposition.
  - 3) Vigilant Watching & a holy violence for holiness.
  - 4) Sober-mindedness, self-control & fleeing from immorality.
  - 5) Warnings of the sureness & nearness of hell.
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- Remember: *For the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. (Matthew 7.13)*

**THESIS — this chapter is a gift from God because it clearly exposes: "The Highway to hell"**

1. the **defense**
2. the **downfall**
3. the **death**

## **I. THE DEFENSE! (1-5)**

You need to arm yourself with the Sword of the Spirit & the Practice of Prayer.

## II. THE DOWNFALL (6-23)

### ***The Highway to Hell***

#### ***The downfall***

#### ***Learn the enemy's strategy!***

- **the youth (6-9)**

- (1) Naive youth (v.9)
- (2) Passing by at night (v.9)

- **her character (10-12)**

- (3) The evil harlot (v10)
- (4) She's loud (v11)
- (5) She's rebellious (v11)
- (6) She's not at home (v11b)
- (7) She's cunning (v12)

- **her tactics (13-20)**

- (8) She seizes him & kisses him (v13)
- (9) She's religious (vv13-15)
- (10) She's seductive (v16)
- (11) She's inviting/forthright (v18)
- (12) She's unfaithful (vv19-20)

- **His response (21-23)**

- (13) She's persuasive (he's enticed)
- (14) She's flattering (he's wooed)
- (15) She destroys him (v22ff)

### **III. THE DEATH (24-27)**

- IF instead of tempting the LORD with his sin, if he would have:
  1. **looked up** to the Lord and remembered his Word (v.24)
  2. **looked within** and kept his own heart focused on God’s Word (v.25)
  3. **looked ahead** to see the terrible consequences of his sin (26-27)  
—Warren Wiersbe

#### **2 ways of application:**

##### **1. Unbelieving, habitual sexual sinner (loves/lives in sin)**

##### **2. Believing, struggling Christian (battling, trapped, ashamed, guilt-laden)**

Christ did not die to make good works merely possible or to produce a half-hearted pursuit. He died to produce in us a passion for good deeds. Christian purity is not the mere avoidance of evil, but the pursuit of good (John Piper).

The chief weapon we ought to use in resisting Satan is the Bible. Three times the great enemy offered temptations to our Lord. Three times his offer was refused, with a text of Scripture as the reason, “it is written” (Mt. 3:4, 7, 10). (JC Ryle)

“It is written.” Stand upon it, and if the devil were fifty devils in one, he could not overcome you. On the other hand, if you leave “It is written,” Satan knows more about reasoning than you do. He is far older, has studied mankind very thoroughly, and knows all our weak points. Therefore, the contest will be an unequal one. Do not argue with him but wave in his face the banner of God’s Word. Satan cannot endure the infallible truth, for it is death to the falsehood of which he is the father. (CH Spurgeon)

## CHRIST IS ALL

I’ve found a treasure that can’t be taken  
Found a well that won’t run dry  
O worldly pleasure be now forsaken  
Behold what love what life is mine  
Could endless striving now make me righteous  
Could all my works now grant me hope  
Oh hallelujah the blood of Jesus  
My only plea my only boast

### Chorus

**Christ is all Christ is all  
And my song will ever be  
Christ is all, All in all  
And my song will ever be  
Christ is all**

And in the trial when storms are raging  
Though tears may fall my soul will rise  
For there’s a peace that is mine un – changing  
There is a joy that never dies

When life is passing and strength is fading  
I’ll see the One that I adore  
Let this world vanish oh give me Jesus  
My great desire my true reward

## WHEN I SURVEY

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.