

Chapter 05

Againe wifdom dehorteth from fornication (carnal and fpiritual) 6. shewing that in the end finners shal fee and feele the effect of their follie: 20. which God feeth and wil punish.

My fonne, attend to my wifdom, and to my prudence incline thyne eare, ² that thou mayft keepe ^{a)}cogitations, and thy lippes preferue difcipline. ³ Attend not to the deceit of a ^{b)}woman: for the lippes of an harlot are as a hony combe diftiling, and her throte netter then oyle. ⁴ But her later endes are bitter as wormewood, and sharpe as a two edged fword. ⁵ Her feete goe downe into death, and her steppes penetrate vnto hel. ⁶ They walke not by the path of life, her steppes are wandering, and vnfearcheable. ⁷ Now therfore my fonne heare me, and depart not from the wordes of my mouth. ⁸ Make thy way far from her, and aproch not to the doores of her houfe. ⁹ Geue not thy honour ^{c)}to ftrangers, and thy yeres to the ^{d)}cruel. ¹⁰ Left perhaps ftrangers be filled with thy ftrength, and thy labours be in an other mans houfe, ¹¹ and thou mourne in the end, when thou shalt haue fpent thy flesh and thy bodie, and fay: ¹² Why haue I detefted difcipline, and my hart confented not to reprehenfions, ¹³ nor I heard the voice of them that taught me, and haue not inclined mine eare to mafters? ¹⁴ I haue almoft bene in al euil, in the middes of the church and of the fynagoge. ¹⁵ Drinke water of thyne owne cefterne, and the ftremes of thy wel: ¹⁶ ^{e)}Let thy fountaines be deriued abroad, and in the ftreates diuide thy waters. ¹⁷ ^{f)}Haue

^a To auoide al impietie it is firft of al neceffarie, not to thinke, fpeake, nor heare vnlawful thinges.

^b By woman is generally vnderftood concupifcence of vvhat finne foever, as *ch. 1. v. 10.* & *ch. 3. v. 33.* *ch. 4. v. 14.*

^c The vvorld the flesh and the diuel are ftrangers,
^d and cruel enemies that render for revvard eternal damnation.

^e Good doctrine is to be imperted to men of fincere intention,

^f not to contemners and obftinate infidels.

them alone, neither let ftrangers be partakers with thee.
¹⁸ Let thy vayne be bleffed, and reioyce with the woman
of thy youth: ¹⁹ a hinde moft deare, and a moft grate-
ful fawne: let her breafte inebriate thee at al time, in
her loue be thou delighted continually. ²⁰ Why art thou
feduced my fonne of a ftrange woman, and art cherished
in the bofome of an other? ²¹ Our Lord beholdeth the
wayes of a man, and confidereth al his fteppes. ²² His
owne iniquities take the impious, and he is faft bonde
with the ropes of his finnes. ²³ He shal die becaufe he
hath not had difcipline, and in the multitude of his folie
he shal be deceiued.