

## IV. Summary

- A. Paul also put these two powerful temptations together...
  - i. Eph. 5:3

*Just as marriage is the proper place for relationship between and man and woman, so too work is the means of profit an reward.*

- Proverbs 10:4
- Pro 12:24
- Pro 21:5

- ii. 1 Timothy 6:9-12

### LIVE THE STORY

*We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.*

- Have you ever thought of the temptation *greed* as being a close second in its danger as that of the *forbidden woman*?
- What are some of the “Easy Money” temptations you have faced? Did you recognize it at the time as a temptation? If so, how? If not, when did you recognize it?
- What do you think of the contrast between profit as the result of honest work, vs. profit as the result of taking advantage of a situation?
- Why do you think Paul, Ephesians 5:3, put greed or covetousness in the same company as immorality, and said there should not even be a hint of it among us?
- Why is work important? Why is the idea of “not working” so attractive to us? Is it a godly desire? Or rebellious?
- Sloth or laziness is a form of escapism. What are some of the forms of escapism that people are especially tempted with today? Which ones tempt you the most?

## Beware of Short-cuts to Pleasure

Jerry Cisar — May 23, 2010

Text: Proverbs 6:1-19

### Introduction: Always looking for a short-cut to Pleasure

**Three short-cuts to pleasure** young men are particularly tempted with... nearly universal in its pull, and nearly as powerful as the unauthorized woman.

**All 3 are forms of one temptation: greed/covetousness.**

### I. Easy Money as a Short-cut to Pleasure (6:1-5)

- A. vs. 1: Neighbor/Stranger...

- Proverbs 22:26-27

- B. Modern Day Applications Abound

- Proverbs 17:18

C. Proverbs condemns unjust gain...not honest profit, but covetous profiteering.

i. Proverbs 11:18

ii. Proverbs 16:8

iii. Proverbs 28:16

iv. Psalm 119:36

## II. Sloth as a Short-cut to Pleasure (6:6-11)

A. We want pleasure, but don't want to have to work for it.

B. The sluggard wants pleasure, but would rather have the immediate pleasure of avoiding work than the pleasure that is the reward of hard work.

i. Pro 10:4

ii. *Proverbs 20:4*

iii. The reward of sloth is the moment...

C. The sluggard never thinks his laziness is a problem...

i. Proverbs 26:13-16

D. Proverbs knows it is a significant problem in young-adults... dominant theme...

i. Pro 13:4

ii. Pro 19:15

iii. Pro 21:25

E. The sluggard is not a case for charity.

i. 2 Thess. 3:10-12

Piper: "...it is shameful for a person created in the image of God to be unwilling to work. Work is a God-appointed means of reflecting God's glory by depending on him for the strength and wisdom to perform the excellence that imitates God's workmanship."

## III. Wicked Associates as a Short-cut to Pleasure (12-19)

A. "A useless, good for nothing, troublemaker..."

i. Greed, which starts with the pursuit of easy money or laziness will often lead to a deeper form of wickedness.

Waltke: "One begins the road to becoming a troublemaker and under God's wrath by trying to make easy money... or by avoiding work."

a) Proverbs 11:16

ii. This character is reappearing from 1:10-19.

a) 1:13-14 the motive is greed

b) 6:12-14 describes his actions; 6:16-19 his character

B. At its core: it is any participation in wickedness as a means to prosperity.

C. 6:15 Disaster will overtake him in an instant...

i. Proverbs 15:9