

“It’ll Be Alright”

Solomon told a story that unfolded before him as he watched from the window of his house. He described a young man who was *naïve* and who *lacked sense*. (Read Proverbs 7 for a complete picture.)

Of course, Solomon did not know the young man’s character by merely looking at him. He watched. He observed. The actions of the young man told his own story so that when Solomon wrote, he described the young fool accurately:

**And I saw among the naïve,
I discerned among the youths,
A young man lacking sense.**

--Proverbs 7:7

Solomon was writing to his own son to warn him to stay away from the adulteress. She seduces with flattery, food, fun, and frivolity.

It is clear that the young man did not turn down the street of the adulteress to go directly to her house; she had to woo him, seduce him... and she did just that.

'Adulteress' is more of a technical term; *seductress* is more descriptive.

The story climaxes in verse 22: **“Suddenly he follows her...”** and he was destroyed.

How did he end up in such catastrophic circumstances so that his strength of will was *suddenly* broken and he gave in to the adulteress?

You can imagine his cries after the fact, *after* he had been seduced and his life ruined:

“I never intended to...”

“I didn’t know...”

“She...” (excuse/blame)

However, Solomon warned, “Do not stray into her paths.” (v. 25) The simple truth is that **he should have known**; he did not have to stray.

We understand that...

- No one *strays* into financial success;
- No one *strays* into a successful career;
- No one *strays* into physical fitness.

Success and excellence require thinking, intention, watchfulness, and planning. We should not think that spiritual maturity is any different.

The young man that Solomon observed was described as *naïve* and *lacking sense* because he was spiritually *thoughtless*.

When we hear our kids (or kids, when you hear yourself) shrug off parental warnings with:

“I don’t see anything wrong with it.”

“Oh mom, you worry too much.”

“You just don’t understand.”

“Oh dad, it’ll be alright.”

When we hear these kinds of *unthinking* responses in the context of questionable entertainment choices, questionable friends, or questionable activities, we should recognize spiritual immaturity. Yet, we must see it for what it really is: *Moral thoughtlessness* (i.e. naïve and lacking sense).

Along life’s journey a person often encounters a ‘Y’ in the road. It is a time to pause...and think: “What will be the likely outcome?” Some paths are to be avoided.

As for the young man that Solomon observed, nothing really happened *suddenly*, except perhaps, that he came to his senses! But it was far too late for thinking at that point. The young man lacked sense *when he first turned the corner without giving it even one moment’s thought...* and he was not *alright!*