

|35| He will not regard kofer (compensation); neither will he be the appeased, though sho Chad (bribe) be great.

7 Beni (my son), be shomer over my words, and treasure up my mitzvot with thee.

|2| Be shomer over my mitzvot, and live, and over my torah as the apple of thine eye.

|3| Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the luach (tablet) of thine lev.

|4| Say unto chochmah, Thou art my achot; and call binah (understanding) thy kinsman;

|5| That they may be shomer over thee and keep thee from the zarah, from the nokhriyah with her smooth words.

|6| For at the chalon (window) of my bais I looked through my lattice,

|7| And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the banim, a na'ar (young man) devoid of lev [of understanding, sense],

|8| Passing through the street near her corner; and he went on the derech to her bais,

|9| In the twilight, at erev, in the black and dark lailah;

|10| And, hinei, there met him an isha with the attire of a zonah, and crafty of lev

|11| –She is loud and soreret (rebellious, defiant); her raglayim abide not in her bais;

|12| Now is she without, now in the rechovot, and lurketh in wait at every pinnah (corner)–

|13| So she caught hold of him, and kissed him, and with a brazen ponem said unto him,

|14| I have zivkhei shelamim vowed; this yom have I payed my neder.

|15| Al ken (therefore) came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee.

|16| I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with a bedspread of fine linen of Mitzrayim.

|17| I have perfumed my mishkav (bed) with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

|18| Come, let us take our fill of dodim (loves) until boker; let us delight ourselves with ahavim (loves, *pl. of intensity*).

|19| For the ish (man, *i.e.*, husband) is not b'bais, he is gone a derech merachok (distant journey);

|20| He hath taken a bag of kesef with him, and will come back to his bais at the appointed time.

|21| By her enticing speech she caused him to yield, with the smoothness of her sfatayim she seduced him.

|22| He goeth after her and followeth immediately, as a shor (ox) goeth to tavach (stock yard, slaughter-house), or as the fettered to the musar of the fool;

|23| Till a khetz (arrow) strike through his liver; as a tzippor hasteth to the pach (snare), and knoweth not that it is for his nefesh (life).

|24| Pay heed unto me now therefore, O ye banim, and attend to the words of my peh (mouth).

|25| Let not thine lev turn aside to her drakhim; go not astray in her netivot (trodden paths).

|26| For she hath cast down many chalalim (wounded); indeed, many strong men have been slain by her.

|27| Her bais is the drakhei Sheol, going down to the chadarim (chambers, rooms) of mavet (death).

[*T.N. The off-stage character here in chp 7 has been the cuckold. Because of her Ba'al affair, Hashem became the cuckold of Israel even as Hosea became the cuckold of Gomer.*]

8 Doth not Chochmah cry out? And Tevunah (understanding) put forth her voice?

|2| In the top of high hills, beside the derech (road) in the bais netivot (meeting place of trodden paths, crossroads) nitzavah (she [*Lady Wisdom, the lady street preacher*] stands).

|3| She crieth out at the she'arim (gates), at the entry of the city, at the entrance at the petachim (doorways):

|4| Unto you, O ishim, I call out; and my voice is to the Bnei Adam.

|5| O ye simple ones, understand armah (prudence); and, ye kesilim, understand in your lev.

|6| Hear; for I will speak negidim (noble things, worthy [*words*]); and the opening of my sfatayim (lips) shall be meisharim (upright, fair things).

|7| For my mouth shall speak emes; and resha is an abomination to my sfatayim (lips).

|8| All the words of my peh (mouth) are in tzedek; there is nothing crooked or perverse in them.

|9| They are all correct to him that discerneth, and yesharim (straight ones) to them that find da'as (knowledge).

|10| Receive my musar, and not kesef; and da'as (knowledge) rather than choice gold.

|11| For chochmah is tovah (better, more precious) than pearls; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

|12| I, Chochmah, dwell with armah (prudence), and find out da'as (knowledge) of mezimot (discretions).

|13| The Yirat Hashem is to hate rah; pride, and ga'on (arrogance), and the derech rah, and the perverse peh (mouth), do I hate.