

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)  
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

## (#36) The Proverbs of Solomon 11:7-8- Why "Beg Trouble?"

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and **Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34** are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**), or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

### **Proverbs 11:7:**

When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish, And the hope of the unjust perishes.

The "expectation," or "hope," of a "wicked man" is driven by worldly lust and greed. Death slams the door on those expectations. Jesus described it thusly: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully...[so he said to himself] 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, *and* be merry'" (**Luke 12:15-20**). Job asked the question: "For what is the hope of the hypocrite, though he may gain *much*, If God takes away his life?" (**Job 27:8**) If life in this world is all there is to hope for, that is, "If *the* dead do not rise, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die'" (**1 Corinthians 15:32**). The righteous, however, have hope beyond this life: "The house of the wicked will be overthrown, But the tent of the upright will flourish" (**Proverbs 14:11**).

### **Proverbs 11:8:**

The righteous is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the wicked instead.

Often, people focus on bad things that happen to good people, and ignore the times when bad people end up being punished by the very things they intended to do to the good people! Another proverb says: "Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him" (**Proverbs 26:27**). Some Bible examples of God sparing the righteous and punishing the wicked in their own snare are:

- The Egyptian Pharaoh's army vanquished in the Red Sea they thought trapped the Israelites (**Exodus 14**);
- Haman, the Agagite, was hanged on his own gallows instead of Mordecai, and Esther saved the Jews (**Esther 7-9**);



**Studies in the Book of Proverbs** by [John T Polk II](#)  
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

- Government officials thrown in the lions' den Daniel had been spared from ([Daniel 6](#)); and
- Soldiers' lives taken after Peter released from prison ([Acts 12:1-19](#)).

Truly "the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the Day of Judgment" ([2 Peter 2:9](#)).

~~~~~