### **The Fellowship Room**

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

### (#53) The Proverbs of Solomon 12:8- How to be Remembered

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 Godgiven explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

#### Proverbs 12:8:

A man will be commended according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.

The real mark of accomplishment is to be recognized as someone who shows he is ordered by "wisdom" and not perverseness. Good character cannot be hidden, and is appreciated by all people, even someone's enemies! It is not for possessions, riches, wealth, honors from men or institutions, family ties or size, or fame that people "commend" for leadership, strength, honor, faith, principles, especially in times of crisis. Wisdom will be seen in his words, deeds, worship, faithfulness, and more importantly, recognized by Jesus Christ:

Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. (Matthew 7:24-25)

The person "of a perverse heart" is living life on the "dark side." This person may resort to trickery, deceit, lies, subterfuge, physical and social intimidation, to achieve the appearance of success, but such a person is following worldly wisdom, which is "earthly, sensual, demonic" and it produces "bitter envy and self-seeking," "confusion and every evil thing" (James 3:14-16). The perverse person sees nothing of God's Works as they purely are, but is perverse in words, deeds, worship, unfaithfulness, and will be judged by Jesus Christ:

But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall. (Matthew 7:26-27)



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No one genuinely highly esteems such an individual. Solomon also said: "When the wicked comes, contempt comes also; and with dishonor comes reproach." (Proverbs 18:3)

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