

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

(#65) The Proverbs of Solomon 13:5- The Bread That Tastes Like Rocks

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 13:5:

A righteous man hates lying, but a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.

A "righteous man" rejects the stench of wickedness. In the final judgment, "all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8) because the LORD hates "a false witness who speaks lies" (Proverbs 6:16-19). "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape" (Proverbs 19:5). The righteousness of God hates and totally rejects "lying," and thus "a righteous man" will also hate "lying." "You who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 97:10).

A "wicked man" is living in that which is "loathsome and comes to shame," in other words, wickedness is disgusting and has no positive conclusion, if followed. Other ways to say this are:

- "Stolen water is sweet, And bread eaten in secret is pleasant" (Proverbs 9:17);
- "Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, but afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel" (Proverbs 20:17). The excitement of theft is in the "getting away" with no consequences, but the Scriptures plainly show that God will enforce those consequences in His own time!
- "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).