

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

## **(#68) The Proverbs of Solomon 13:13- Pick one: Despise or Fear God's Word.**

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 13:13:**

He who despises the word will be destroyed, But he who fears the commandment will be rewarded.

"Despises" is a verb meaning "having no regard or respect for." Another proverb applies this principle to prayer: "One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer *is* an abomination" (**Proverbs 28:9**). Without exception, either eternal or physical destruction or both, comes to those who reject God's Word. Jesus also said:

Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you-- Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?" (**John 5:45-47**)

Though Jesus did not come to be the Judge the first time, He will, at His Second Coming (**Hebrews 9:27-28**), for He said:

And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. (**John 12:47-48**)

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with



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deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber. ([2 Peter 2:1-3](#))

There will be no scoffers, agnostics, atheists, immoral, wicked, or perverse people who “will be rewarded,” for they all refuse to “fear the commandment” of God. Solomon said this, and then the Apostle Peter also:

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil. ([Ecclesiastes 12:13-14](#))

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: ‘in truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.’ ([Acts 10:34-35](#))

God’s reward is for those who accept His Word and treat it accordingly:  
For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. ([1 Thessalonians 2:13](#))

