

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

(#87) The Proverbs of Solomon 14:26- Are You Sure?

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 14:26:

In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, and His children will have a place of refuge.

"Fear of the LORD" is the attitude of giving reverence and respect to God in everything we do, because there is no "strong confidence" in being afraid. The "fear of the LORD" is the beginning of "knowledge" (**Proverbs 1:7**) and "wisdom" (**Proverbs 9:10**). Other proverbs teach us that obeying God with admiration should be more important than amassing "great treasure" because "there is a hereafter:"

- Better is a little with the fear of the LORD, than great treasure with trouble. (**Proverbs 15:16**)
- Do not let your heart envy sinners, but be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day; for surely there is a hereafter, and your hope will not be cut off. (**Proverbs 23:17-18**)

"Strong confidence" shows no fear, insecurity or doubt, and can get us to Heaven:
And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. (**1 John 2:28**)

When the Apostle Paul wrote to Philemon, he had "confidence in your obedience" (**Philemon 21**). This can only be said of those who "hearing, believed, and were baptized" (**Acts 18:8**), for baptism "now saves us" (**1 Peter 3:21**). No one should be confident of their own salvation unless and until they have followed exactly what the Scriptures teach! The central message of the Old Testament revolves around this thought:

It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.
(**Psalms 118:8**)



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It follows that:

Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint. ([Proverbs 25:19](#))

It is tragic when “strong confidence” is placed in humans, rather than in God! The people who run and hide from God have trusted in themselves without learning the “strong confidence” that comes to one who “walked with God,” like Enoch ([Genesis 5:22-24](#)) or Noah ([Genesis 6:9](#)). It is only in the church of Christ, that “we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him” ([Ephesians 3:10-12](#)).

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