

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

(#88) The Proverbs of Solomon 14:28- A Kingdom Divided Against Itself (Matthew 12:25)

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 14:28:

In a multitude of people is a king's honor, but in the lack of people is the downfall of a prince.

While the Israelites were united under Solomon's God-blessed rule in their Promised Land, the queen of Sheba said:

Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the LORD your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do justice and righteousness.
(**2 Chronicles 9:8**)

After Solomon died, their kingdom divided when Rehoboam "did not listen to the people" (**1 Kings 12:15**), then "all Israel saw that the king did not listen to them" (**1 Kings 12:16**), and they killed his tax collector (**1 Kings 12:17-18**). When people see their leaders do not listen to them, they try a different government leader, as Israel did with Jeroboam (**1 Kings 12:25-33**), often with worse consequences!

Government leaders should follow the Word of God (**Deuteronomy 17:18-20**), because "If a ruler pays attention to lies, all his servants *become* wicked" (**Proverbs 29:12**). All rulers who believe in their own sovereignty and power have succumbed to their self-deceit, because, as Paul said,

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. (**Romans 13:1**)

Without acknowledging God's authority the government is corrupt:

Like a roaring lion and a charging bear is a wicked ruler over poor people. A ruler who lacks understanding is a great



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oppressor, but he who hates covetousness will prolong his days.
(**Proverbs 28:15-16**)

Certainly, one should not accept nor be taken in by the rich delicacies offered by the king (**Proverbs 23:1-3**).

A few ways leaders keep their people in line include:

- (1)** Murdering their opponents;
- (2)** Constant propaganda of lies;
- (3)** Forced labor; or
- (4)** Limiting the population.

Examples of each include:

- (1)** Tyrannies and dictatorships always fear the masses, and often seek to annihilate their opposition within their own land. Their names are legion, and their victims number in the hundreds of millions:
 - a. Egyptian Pharaoh and Israelites (**Exodus 1:7-12**);
 - b. Mohammedans/ Moslems against Jews, Catholics, and Bible-believers;
 - c. Roman Catholic Inquisition for hundreds of years;
 - d. Joseph Stalin in Russia;
 - e. Benito Mussolini in Italy;
 - f. Adolph Hitler in Europe;
 - g. Mao Tse-tung in China;
 - h. Khmer Rouge in Cambodia.
- (2)** Propaganda was produced by (1); and today includes the constant mantras of "Global Warming," "Evolution," "World Economy," "Carbon Footprints," "Bigger Government Necessity," "Broken Medical System," "Radical Right-wingers," "Crazy Bible-believers," *ad nauseum*.
- (3)** Egyptian Pharaoh (**Exodus 1:13-15**); those mentioned in (1); economic slaves (**Proverbs 22:7**).
- (4)** Egyptian Pharaoh (**Exodus 1:16-22**- the God-fearing midwives refused to murder innocent born babies!); the genocide of abortion (including partial abortion); government-backed "euthanasia;" government-controlled medical care; *et al*.

Countries ruled by a minority, who do not listen to their majority population, will suffer "downfall."

