

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

(#94) The Proverbs of Solomon 15:14- You Can't Judge A Book By Its Covers

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 15:14:

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

Fools feed on foolishness, which is why they are "fools!" These are the people who read:

- Headlines touting ungodly ways without reading the articles showing their failures;
- Magazine covers showing beautiful pictures of perverse and ungodly people without seeing how vain and spiritless their lives prove to be;
- TV programs whose interviews with celebrity baby-makers completely ignore their ungodly rejection of God's marriage and home pattern for protective developing of a human life;
- Social media expressions of freedom from rules, restrictions, and regulations, which have been developed from Biblical principles!

Other proverbs have this teaching incorporated in them:

- Wisdom is in the sight of him who has understanding, but the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth (Proverbs 17:24). It is foolish for everything to be done for "the world economy," or "for all of humanity," or "for history's sake," and to neglect the near, immediate, and personal concerns! Having one's head in the clouds, eyes on the horizon, or feet on the go often prevents meeting the needs of those closest to us.
- Evil men do not understand justice, but those who seek the LORD understand all" (Proverbs 28:5). It takes a studied effort to learn the LORD's way, and "evil men" are on a different path to knowledge of the wrong things. "Those who seek the LORD" learn more of the LORD and of themselves as their experience grows, but those who are "evil" never learn "justice" (fair play, good moral rules, good godly sense).

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

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If you'd rather feed on foolishness, you've chosen your companions. But if you wish to change your mind, seek the wisdom that is from above and revealed in Scripture:

Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, and apply your heart to my knowledge; for it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; Let them all be fixed upon your lips, so that your trust may be in the LORD; I have instructed you today, even you. Have I not written to you excellent things of counsels and knowledge, that I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, that you may answer words of truth to those who send to you? (Proverbs 22:17-21)