

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

(#104) The Proverbs of Solomon 16:3-4- How Committed Are You?

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 16:3-4:

Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established. 4 The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

Verse 3: Since God's Word is settled in Heaven ("Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven" Psalm 119:89), nothing "settles" us better than knowing we have adopted God's Will as our own! When we do God's Will, Solomon said, "Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works" (Ecclesiastes 7:7), and he was NOT saying "get drunk" (Ephesians 5:18), but to be "merry" before eating and drinking! We have reason to rejoice when we know our thoughts and plans please God.

Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 4:1-2)

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (Colossians 3:17)

Verse 4: An old salt (not in the Bible!) is, "A place for everything, and everything in its place." This seems to state what this proverb holds: God has made everything "good" as it should be in the Creation

(Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31), even providing a place for those who choose to be wicked (Matthew 25:41). As Peter points out in 2 Peter 2:4-9, that:

- From Genesis 3-19 the "angels who sinned" were "cast down to Tartarus and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;"
- The wicked were destroyed in Noah's Flood;

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



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

- Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed when Lot was spared;
- "*Then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment."

God does not make them wicked (James 1:13-15), but certainly has made them a place to be reserved away from those who choose to be righteous by following His Will. David's prayer was for the wicked to "be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous" (Psalm 69:28), for this has been God's Will:

For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil. (1 Peter 3:12)