

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

(#154) The Proverbs of Solomon 21:6-7- Scram, Scam!

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 21:6-7:

Getting treasures by a lying tongue is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death. The violence of the wicked will destroy them, because they refuse to do justice.

To those who can't "be successful" by gambling ([Lesson #153](#), [Proverbs 21:5](#)), this proverbial truth is against those who will steal by "a lying tongue!" Scam artists, politicians, swindlers, con-men are all ways to describe those who will say anything to trick, deceive, or extort someone else's "treasures" and who are opening themselves up to their victims' payback, which could create a violent end! Other proverbs give warnings about this conduct:

- He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow, And the rod of his anger will fail. ([Proverbs 22:8](#))
- One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion Gathers it for him who will pity the poor. ([Proverbs 28:8](#))

When the victim(s) discover the lies, retaliation and retribution are the results. God condemned the capital of corruption, Jerusalem, because:

'In you they take bribes to shed blood; you take usury and increase; you have made profit from your neighbors by extortion, and have forgotten Me,' says the Lord GOD. 'Behold, therefore, I beat My fists at the dishonest profit which you have made, and at the bloodshed which has been in your midst.'
([Ezekiel 22:12-13](#))

Those who are "unjust" will...

Speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.
([2 Peter 2:18-19](#))

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Don't believe empty promises by people:

- (1) You don't know (telephone solicitations, "junk mail" offers, campaigning politicians);
- (2) Whose promises must be repeated because they haven't honored them the first time they offered;
- (3) Whose promises contradict facts or Scripture; or
- (4) Who are under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

The Law of Jesus Christ, if obeyed, will stop predators:

For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'You shall not covet,' and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.
(Romans 13:9-10)

Should "the wicked" resort to "violence," then, as Jesus said, "all who take the sword will perish by the sword" (Matthew 26:52). "Bullying" is any intimidation by words or actions along with the threat of danger, whether by means of: Facebook, Internet, late-night knock on the door, taxation without representation, ridicule, gossip, whispering, *ad nauseum*. Solomon later will say:

He who digs a pit will fall into it, and whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent. (Ecclesiastes 10:8)

All bullies should expect to be brought down. The giant Goliath was an intimidator.

Then he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, 'Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.' And the Philistine said, 'I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.'
(1 Samuel 17:8-10)

The lad, David, prevailed with a sling and a stone because his faith in God's help would bring down any bully (1 Samuel 17:45-52).

A properly informed citizenry with faith in God, can stop bullying in its tracks.

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