

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

(#166) The Proverbs of Solomon 24:8-9- The Road To Hell Is Paved With Bad Intentions

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 24:8-9:

He who plots to do evil will be called a schemer. The devising of foolishness is sin, and the scoffer is an abomination to men.

Plotting "to do evil," and "devising of foolishness" describe one whose heart is captivated by wickedness. These were the people God destroyed in:

- Noah's flood (**Genesis 6:5-8**);
- Sodom and Gomorrah (**Genesis 13:14; 19:4-5; Ezekiel 16:49-50**);
- The wilderness wandering (**Joshua 5:6**); and, in future, in
- The Judgment Day to come (**Matthew 7:13-29**).

This is the corrupted heart of worldly people from which Jesus Christ saves (**Ephesians 2:1-3; 2 Peter 1:2-4**) by obedience to His Gospel (**Mark 16:15-16; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11**). It is bad enough for one's heart to "scheme" (plan, plot, or devise) evil, but "the scoffer" is the wicked person who is willing to attack righteousness and the righteous with false charges, denials, and ridicule. "A proud and haughty man - 'Scoffer' is his name; He acts with arrogant pride" (**Proverbs 21:24**). Scoffers should be considered "an abomination to men" because they create confusion, wickedness, and distrust in those who would otherwise confidently follow God's Will (**Philippians 1:3-7; Hebrews 3:5-6; 10:35-39**).

This has NOTHING WHATEVER to do with honest, righteous, godly Christians who, though striving to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (**2 Peter 3:18**), may sin through temptation and weakness of the flesh (**Romans 8:26; Hebrews 4:15**). Another proverb says:

- For a righteous *man* may fall seven times and rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity. (**Proverbs 24:16**)



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

The righteous person who stumbles and sins will “repent and pray” that God will forgive that sin ([Acts 8:12-13, 22](#); [1 John 1:7-10](#)), but the wicked person who has no intention of obeying Jesus Christ for forgiveness has absolutely no prospect of forgiveness ([Mark 16:16](#); [Ezekiel 18:21-29](#)).

~ ~ ~ ~ ~