

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

(#192) The Proverbs of Solomon 28:28- Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are

Proverbs 28:28:

When the wicked arise, men hide themselves; but when they perish, the righteous increase.

It is a moral world turned upside-down when wickedness rules. It was when "the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" ([Genesis 6:5](#)) that God destroyed the entire earth with a flood of water, preserving only the life in Noah's ark ([Genesis 7:11-24](#); [1 Peter 3:18-22](#)). God promised to drive out the wicked inhabitants of the land He Promised to the Israelites with this explanation:

Do not think in your heart, after the LORD your God has cast them out before you, saying, 'Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land'; but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out from before you. ([Deuteronomy 9:4](#))

When the Israelites became wicked, He drove them out of that land and then returned them after 70 years.

'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation.' ([Jeremiah 25:12](#))

'They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall be until the day that I visit them,' says the LORD. 'Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.' ([Jeremiah 27:22](#))

This restoration to that land has already occurred ([2 Chronicles 36:15-23](#); [Ezra 1:1-11](#); [Nehemiah 8:1-18](#))! Jesus Christ's Second Coming will see that wickedness is once again destroyed:

"But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." ([Matthew 24:37-39](#); [Acts 17:30-31](#))



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Before Solomon, David had recognized this truth:

The wicked prowl on every side, when vileness is exalted among the sons of men. ([Psalm 12:8](#))

Other proverbs state this, even from the other side:

- When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory; but when the wicked arise, men hide themselves. ([Proverbs 28:12](#))
- When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan. ([Proverbs 29:2](#))
- When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases; but the righteous will see their fall. ([Proverbs 29:16](#))

When the wicked rule, the righteous want no part of that administration, and “hide.” However, the righteous must let their voices continue to pray to God for relief, and continue to teach righteousness to all who will hear. Paul reminded the Thessalonians:

Our coming to you was not in vain. But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict. For our exhortation did not come from error or uncleanness, nor was it in deceit. But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts. ([1 Thessalonians 2:1-4](#))

Pray without ceasing. ([1 Thessalonians 5:7](#))

“Let the redeemed of the LORD say so” ([Psalm 107:2](#)), and pray “that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ” ([Colossians 4:3](#)).

