The Fellowship Room

Since God Created Humans, Only God Can Provide by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

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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 Solomon's judgments about individual cases brought to him, or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 25:26: A righteous *man* who falters before the wicked *Is like* a murky spring and a polluted well.

No one but Jesus Christ has been perfect but the ungodly Jews hurled every accusation against Him they could concoct. "And He was teaching daily in the temple. But the chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people sought to destroy Him, and were unable to do anything; for all the people were very attentive to hear Him" (Luke 19:47-48); "Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none" (Matthew 26:59-60); "And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. Then Pilate said to Him, 'Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?' But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly" (Matthew 27:12-14).

Sinful people cannot wait to find "a righteous *man*" who sins, for then they may say, "Christians are hypocrites;" "I'm as good as anyone who goes to church;" "the Gospel of Christ hasn't helped all others be good," *ad nauseum*. And it is true as Solomon later said: "Dead flies putrefy the perfumer's ointment, And cause it to give off a foul odor; So does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honor" (Ecclesiastes 10:1). No one is justifying sin in a righteous man, "For a righteous *man* may fall seven times And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity" (Proverbs 24:16).

Sinners who point their finger at a Christian who "falters before the wicked" are:

- 1) Hypocritical; arrogant; judgmental; unjust; and merciless, all of which are damned by the Word of God;
- 2) Ignorant of the fact that they are "the wicked" and therefore damned by God;

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3) Expecting God to follow their standard of judgment (no sin can be condemned as long as a righteous person has sinned), instead of His standard of righteousness (John 12:48-50; Acts 17:30-31).

Knowing sinners seek to "justify themselves in the sight of men" (Luke 16:15), Christians must "Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time" (Colossians 4:5). But know this, no sinner's sins will be excused by any Christian's sin(s) because "those who are outside God judges" (1 Corinthians 5:13). If you are outside of Christ, you have no excuse and only one appeal. "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). Sinners, are you too "chicken" to see if you can do any better?

--- John T Polk II