

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

(#145) The Proverbs of Solomon 20:6- Don't Ask Me!

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 20:6:

Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a faithful man?

People who boast of their own good deeds, usually are without the works to back it up! Self-praise is no praise! Beware of those who are in the business of promoting themselves! Everyone else can see through such boasting, as other proverbs declare:

- Who can say, 'I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?' (Proverbs 20:9)
- Even a child is known by his deeds, whether what he does *is* pure and right. (Proverbs 20:11)
- Whoever falsely boasts of giving *is like* clouds and wind without rain. (Proverbs 25:14)
- Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is* more hope for a fool than for him. (Proverbs 26:12)
- A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor. (Proverbs 29:23)

The good way to prevent this creeping arrogance is given in another proverb:

• Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips. (Proverbs 27:2)

Under New Testament Law, Christians must:

Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. (Romans 12:16)

Even the Apostle Paul, with humility before God, said,

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



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I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. (1 Corinthians 4:4)

The reason is:

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit to God. (James 4:6-7)

If you were to ask: How good am I? Don't ask yourself! Ask Jesus Christ: He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him. (John 14:21)

For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. (Galatians 6:3-4)

He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16)