

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

(#173) The Proverbs of Solomon 24:23-25- Judging With No Sympathy for Sin

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 24:23-25:

These things also belong to the wise: It is not good to show partiality in judgment. He who says to the wicked, 'You are righteous,' him the people will curse; nations will abhor him. But those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, and a good blessing will come upon them.

God, through Moses' Law, condemned not being objective in our moral judgments:
You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. (**Leviticus 19:15**)

You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's. The case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it. (**Deuteronomy 1:17**)

You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous. (**Deuteronomy 16:19**)

God's Wisdom was spoken through Solomon:

- To show partiality is not good, because for a piece of bread a man will transgress. (**Proverbs 28:21**)

Then God, in the form of Jesus Christ, confirmed this truth:

Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment. (**John 7:24**)



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God NEVER condemns moral judgment, but judging without God’s morality ALWAYS IS! Christians must never judge behavior by a wrong standard, such as:

(1) **Reversed Morals:**

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter... Who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away justice from the righteous man! ([Isaiah 5:20, 23](#));

(2) **Hypocritical Application:**

Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. ([Matthew 7:1-2](#));

(3) **Sympathetic Exception:**

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles-- that a man has his father's wife! And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. ([1 Corinthians 5:1-5](#))

God will judge the world by His righteousness, not our accepted standard ([Psalm 9:8](#); [Acts 17:30-31](#)), for “not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends” ([2 Corinthians 10:18](#)). We must do as He says, not as we feel:

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

