

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

(#177) The Proverbs of Solomon 26:1- Wasted R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Proverbs 26:1:

As snow in summer and rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.

Some things don't even belong together in real life, for God "gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest" ([Jeremiah 5:24](#)); and "snow" cannot fall in the hottest part of the year! Another proverb says "Like one who binds a stone in a sling is he who gives honor to a fool" ([Proverbs 26:8](#)), for if a stone doesn't leave the sling, it is a completely wasted effort.

"Honor" is "respect, esteem, admiration, reverence," and God's rule throughout the Bible is "those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed" ([1 Samuel 2:30](#));

Glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. ([Romans 2:10-11](#))

Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality. ([Colossians 3:24-25](#))

It is to be given selectively to people who show it toward God and His Word:

And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen. ([Exodus 14:17-18](#); [Psalm 66:1-7](#))

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. and those who walk in pride He is able to put down. ([Daniel 4:37](#))



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Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
(1 Timothy 1:17)

“Honor” should be given to: “father and mother” (Ephesians 6:2-3), “the presence of an old man” (Leviticus 19:32), church “elders” (1 Timothy 5:17), “all” people (1 Peter 2:17), and “the king” (1 Peter 2:17).

“Honor” should not go to people just because they are: “mighty” (Leviticus 19:15), “receive honor from one another” (John 5:44), or a “fool” (Proverbs 26:1). It profanes our honor of God when we waste it upon people who “do not seek the honor that comes from the only God” (John 5:44). We should give “honor to whom honor” (Romans 13:7). Be careful whom you honor.

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