

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

(#57) The Proverbs of Solomon 12:12-13- Deliver 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 12:12-13:

The wicked covet the catch of evil men, but the root of the righteous yields fruit. 13 The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will come through trouble.

Wicked people think the more people they ensnare, the bigger the crowd for God and the righteous to deal with. They think there's safety in numbers, and this may be the thinking behind drinking and drug parties or gangs. Only "the wicked" seek the company of "the wicked" or influence others to join them in wickedness. "The wicked" are victims of their own stated wicked plans, untruths, and broken promises! Another proverb that deals with this is:

Proverbs 21:10: "The soul of the wicked desires evil; his neighbor finds no favor in his eyes."

A psalmist clearly described them:

He sits in the lurking places of the villages; in the secret places he murders the innocent; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless. He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den; He lies in wait to catch the poor; He catches the poor when he draws him into his net. So he crouches, he lies low, that the helpless may fall by his strength. (**Psalm 10:8-10**)

Only "the wicked" target the helpless. Only "the wicked" would gang up on and beat to death an 88-year old World War II veteran; or rob and kill a 99-year old woman; or blow up unarmed citizens and children in the name of a "justifiable war;" or involve innocent children in perverseness before they know right from wrong.



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The righteous are a complete contrast, whose "root" (core values) is to produce goodness, and therefore "will come through trouble," a phrase meaning survive with good morals intact. This is a complete contrast to Apostles of Jesus Christ who healed a helpless lame man ([Acts 3:1-10; 4:8-10](#)). Other proverbs that show this contrast are:

- In the way of righteousness is life, and in *its* pathway *there is* no death. ([Proverbs 12:28](#))
- The LORD *is* far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous. ([Proverbs 15:29](#)).

For Christians, Peter warned of the "judgment" of persecution upon both the righteous and sinners, then added:

For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now 'If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?' Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator. ([1 Peter 4:17-19](#))

Only Jesus Christ can deliver a soul from the ravages of tribulation ([John 16:33](#)).

