

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

## **(#70) The Proverbs of Solomon 13:15- Why Do Sinners Live The Hard Life?**

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 13:15:**

Good understanding gains favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard.

There is nothing in the teaching of Jesus Christ that cannot appeal to the better nature in every person:

Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men. Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. (**Romans 14:16-19**)

By precisely following Jesus Christ, the Christian life would be peaceful to all.

For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men-- as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. (**1 Peter 2:15-17**)

"The way of the unfaithful is hard" is proven every day in every way. It is much more difficult to live in sin than to follow the way of righteousness. The life controlled by alcohol, or other drugs, is littered with domestic abuse, violent arguments, tragic accidents, and lost wages. STDs, HIV, and their accompanying afflictions are not usually associated with the purity of one male and one female devoted in marriage (**Matthew 19:4-9**). Finding purpose in life, holding to high principles, and facing threats and troubles from enemies in life is impossible without Christ (**1 Peter 2:13-17**). Aging while looking back over a life of ruin is agonizing, and Solomon later said:

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

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Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God. ([Ecclesiastes 8:12-13](#))

If a sinner can see what a Christian does not have to endure, obeying Jesus Christ is clearly the better way.

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. ([2 Corinthians 10:4-6](#))

Other proverbs also teach this hardship of sinners:

- Evil pursues sinners, but to the righteous, good shall be repaid. ([Proverbs 13:21](#))
- *In* the house of the righteous *there is* much treasure, but in the revenue of the wicked is trouble. ([Proverbs 15:6](#))
- Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, but *he who is* perverse *in his* ways will suddenly fall. ([Proverbs 28:18](#))
- By transgression an evil man is snared, but the righteous sings and rejoices. ([Proverbs 29:6](#)).

Given the difficulties in life, many sinners resort to even more sin! That's like finding ourselves in a hole, and we start digging! The solution is not to do more sin, but to be relieved from that burden. Jesus said:

'Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.'  
([Matthew 11:28-30](#))

Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'  
([Acts 2:38](#))

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