

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

(#72) The Proverbs of Solomon 13:19- What's Your "Sweet" Spot?

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 13:19:

A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul, but it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil.

Waiting and anticipation heighten the satisfaction of any desire (**Proverbs 13:12**), and when hard work and persistence are finally rewarded, the human soul responds with that "sweet" feeling.

Interesting, isn't it, how "sweet" is still the term for something pleasing? Whether it's personal victory over affliction or illness, national victory over oppressive enemies, spiritual victory over the Devil, that "sweetness" is better than any other moment. Moments connected with God's blessings like these are highlights in a person's life:

- Marriage as God would have it (**Ephesians 5:33**);
- Intimate love (**1 Corinthians 7:2-5**);
- A baby's birth (**John 16:21**);
- Being born again in baptism (**1 Peter 3:21-22**);
- Restoring a fallen brother to Christ (**James 5:19-20**).

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. (**Hebrews 11:24-26**)

No one in sin, or using sins as an *artificial sweetener*, can ever experience such sweetness of soul, hence, they consider it "abomination" "to depart from evil." They are driven further into sin by their bitterness and hatred of "the life of God."



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This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ([Ephesians 4:17-19](#))

Jesus said, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me" ([Luke 9:23](#)).

A sinner must "deny" that the way of righteousness is an "abomination," and ask "Lord, what do You want me to do?" ([Acts 9:6](#)), and hear Jesus' answer: ""He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." ([Mark 16:16](#))

