

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

(#89) The Proverbs of Solomon 14:34- God's Burden Against America

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 14:34:

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

"Righteousness" is the state or condition of being "right:"

- **As defined by God:** "Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous" (**1 John 3:7**);
- **By His commandments:** "My tongue shall speak of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness" (**Psalm 119:172**);
- **By His example:** "And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (**1 John 2:1**).

Governments exist to protect the "righteous" within their citizenry:

For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. (**Romans 13:3-5**)

Every law; court-ruling; verbally-abusive, bullying, headlined propaganda piece; Harlotwood perversely-slanted movie or TV program will be considered in God's Judgment of this, or any other, nation! Speaking to Christians about the Jewish persecution of them, Paul wrote:

For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans, who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own

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

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prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up the measure of their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost. (1 [Thessalonians 2:14-16](#))

God would not destroy the homosexually corrupted cities of Sodom & Gomorrah ([Genesis 18:20; 19:1-11](#)) if there were as few as ten righteous among them ([Genesis 18:23-33](#)), but there were not. God had a "burden" of judgment against nations, countries, and cities where sin had prevailed:

- Babylon ([Isaiah 13:1](#)) and Nineveh ([Nahum 1:1](#));
- Moab ([Isaiah 15:1](#));
- Damascus in Syria ([Isaiah 17:1](#));
- Egypt ([Isaiah 19:1](#)); and
- Arabia ([Isaiah 21:13](#)).

Assyria (not covenant-keepers of Moses' Law!) was told by the prophet:

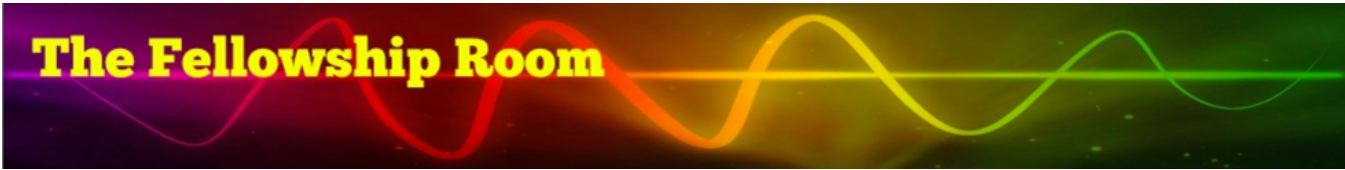
The LORD has given a command concerning you: 'Your name shall be perpetuated no longer. Out of the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the molded image. I will dig your grave, For you are vile.' ([Nahum 1:14](#))

Since then, none of these have ever arisen again to their former prominence and power! Since Jesus Christ, no country is God's chosen people except the spiritual kingdom known as the churches of Christ ([Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 16:16](#)). All God requires of every nation is to uphold and encourage right thinking and right doing:

Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.' ([Ezekiel 18:29-30](#))

God is "fair," for He accepts anyone who obeys Him:

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: 'In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.' ([Acts 10:34-35](#))



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Jesus Christ pronounced the principle that saves:

And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.'
([Mark 16:15-16](#))

This Gospel obeyed, exalts any nation.

The further a society drifts from truth the more it will hate those who speak it. — *George Orwell*

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