

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

## **(#110) The Proverbs of Solomon 16:16- Coins or Christ?**

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 16:16:**

How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

Some things are worth more than "silver" or "gold." "Wisdom" and "understanding" are two of these. "Wisdom" is God's Intelligent Design that He placed in every detail of His Creation in the "heavens and the earth" (**Genesis 1:1**). This truth is at the foundation of faith in God, for:

He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, and stretched out the heaven by His understanding. (**Jeremiah 51:15**)

By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (**Hebrews 11:3**)

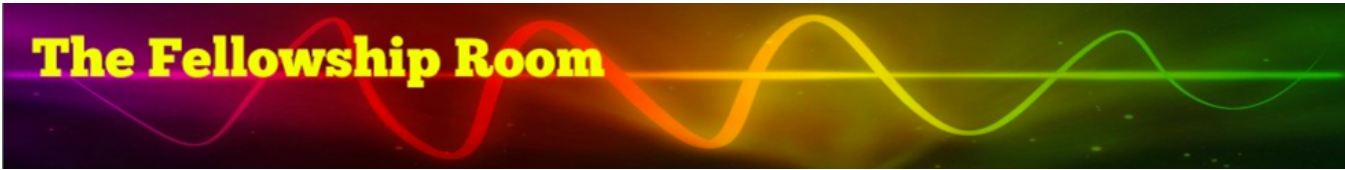
"Understanding" is recognition of this, and it is humbling to the human mind, for we cannot be in charge of our own destinies without God's help. Solomon, in Chapter 8, had already personified Wisdom, who explained how God placed it throughout the Creation, and shows it to be priceless:

- Receive my instruction, and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom *is* better than rubies, and all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her. (**Proverbs 8:10-11**)
- My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, and my revenue than choice silver. (**Proverbs 8:19**)

The Apostle Peter was inspired by the Holy Spirit to bring this to our attention who live under the Law of Jesus Christ:

And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the

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



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time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. (1 Peter 1:17-21)

Just as God's Creation shows His Wisdom, those who accept this fact can see His Wisdom in their Recreation. Jesus left us with the Gospel command to:  
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)

