

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

(#43) The Proverbs of Solomon 11:18-19- Do Not Be Deceived

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 11:18-19:

The wicked man does deceptive work, but he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward. 19 As righteousness leads to life, so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.

Who is the most deceived when he is "wicked," but the wicked? The wicked's "work" is for nothing, since all the thrills of thinking that one has beaten the system; or the rules don't apply to me; or God won't condemn anyone; or God will be merciful to me; have absolutely no support from the Word of God! Other proverbs that uphold this teaching are:

- **Proverbs 11:31**: "If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth, How much more the ungodly and the sinner;"
- **Proverbs 12:2-3**: "A good man obtains favor from the LORD, but a man of wicked intentions He will condemn. 3 A man is not established by wickedness, But the root of the righteous cannot be moved;"
- **Proverbs 12:7**: "The wicked are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous will stand;"
- **Proverbs 12:21**: "No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, but the wicked shall be filled with evil;"
- **Proverbs 13:6**: "Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, but wickedness overthrows the sinner;"
- **Proverbs 13:9**: "The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out;"
- **Proverbs 13:25**: "The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, but the stomach of the wicked shall be in want;"
- **Proverbs 14:14**: "The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, but a good man will be satisfied from above;"
- **Proverbs 14:32**: "The wicked is banished in his wickedness, but the righteous has a refuge in his death;"



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- **Proverbs 21:12**: "The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked, overthrowing the wicked for their wickedness."

The warning "do not be deceived," meaning keep your eyes open to yourselves, or watch out, also occurs for Christians in the New Testament:

- Sinners will not "inherit the kingdom of God" (**1 Corinthians 6:9-10**);
- Christians can be corrupted by "evil company" (**1 Corinthians 15:33**);
- None will escape their works on the day of Judgment (**Galatians 6:7-8**); and
- No one is tempted into sin by God (**James 1:13-16**)!

Just as surely as the righteous will receive the blessings of being righteous, the wicked will receive the "death" they have earned and deserve.

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**)

