

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

(#117) The Proverbs of Solomon 16:33- What God Has Done For Us, Lately

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 16:33:

The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

This has nothing whatever to do with "gambling," or placing a decision before the blind, false god of Fate or Chance! The proverb is using "the lot" to represent a decision to be left in the hand of "the LORD." When Judas Iscariot hanged himself after betraying the Lord, the Apostle Peter stated God's prophesying of, and qualifications for, the selection of a replacement Apostle for Judas. Once God's authorization and requirements were known by the 120 disciples, "they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias." (**Acts 1:15-23**) Then they prayed for God to make His decision known, "And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles" (**Acts 1:24-26**). God guides decisions much more than many realize. God caused the sailors' "lots" to fall on Jonah (**Jonah 1:4-10**), just as He would choose Matthias as an Apostle!

The notion that God doesn't interact with His Creation simply isn't true. "But our God *is* in heaven; He does whatever He pleases" (**Psalms 115:3**). Other proverbs repeat this:

- A man's steps *are* of the LORD; how then can a man understand his own way? (**Proverbs 20:24**)
- The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *like* the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes. (**Proverbs 21:1**)

King Artaxerxes decreed that Ezra be given whatever he needed to rebuild the Jerusalem temple, which prompted this praise:



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Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem. ([Ezra 7:27, verses 11-28](#))

When the truth of God is known and obeyed, it is safe to leave a decision up to Him. It was God Who gave Abram "a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son" ([Genesis 22:11-13](#)). God knew ahead of time ([Psalm 22:18](#)) that the soldiers who crucified Jesus would say "therefore among themselves, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,' that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: 'They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.' Therefore the soldiers did these things" ([John 19:24](#)).

Did you just happen to read this article?

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