

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

## (#186) The Proverbs of Solomon 27:11-12- Use Your RADAR

### Proverbs 27:11-12:

My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him who reproaches me. A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple pass on and are punished.

Radar (an acronym for **radio detection and ranging** first used in 1941) is an application of radio waves that extends human "sight" far beyond the range of the normal eye. It has use in trains, planes, automobiles, weather forecasting, cooking, space exploration, *et. al.* It has come to be associated with "an awareness, sensitivity, or foreboding of things to come."

According to the Bible, humans have access to moral "radar" that should be very helpful:

#### 1) The God Who Sees All.

The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. From the place of His dwelling He looks on all the inhabitants of the earth; He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works. ([Psalm 33:13-15](#))

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good. ([Proverbs 15:3](#))

The New Testament echoes this:

For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. ([1 John 3:20](#))

Whatever God commands, advises, or explains about the future result of human behavior should alert each of us to "watch out" for what is ahead.

#### 2) Our Consciences. Everyone has been given by God an inner "radar" to sense whether a thought or action is right or wrong. This is not by itself a moral standard, for we can ignorantly violate God's standard of righteousness while we have a "good conscience" (example, Saul of Tarsus killing Christians, [Acts 9:1](#), with a "good conscience," [Acts 23:1](#)); a conscience can become "evil" ([Hebrews 10:22](#)); or even "seared" ([1 Timothy 4:1-3](#)).

When educated by studying God's Word, however, a conscience can project ahead to sense whether a thought or action should be followed, for:

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



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The purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith. ([1 Timothy 1:5](#))

A “good conscience” lets us know we have done God’s Will even though others say we haven’t ([1 Peter 3:16](#)), and it won’t let us claim to be saved before we are baptized ([1 Peter 3:21](#)). Our Bible-oriented conscience should alert each of us to “watch out” for what is ahead.

**3) Our Prudence (or good judgment).** Christians must use their good judgment (be prudent) by heeding the warning signs (God’s Word, consciences, experiences):

But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. ([Hebrews 5:14](#))

Regarding His Second Coming and destruction of the world, Jesus has said: “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.” ([Matthew 25:13](#))

There is NO “radar” for the exact “day nor the hour,” but the moral “radar” sweep should show us to be constantly prepared:

You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. ([1 Thessalonians 5:5-6](#))

“The simple” will “pass on and be punished.” Which are you? Use your “radar.”

