

The Attackers: The Mandate “Be making straight wheel-tracks with your feet” in Heb 12:13 Is Metaphorical for Developing Facilitated Memory Traces in the Brain or Wheel-tracks of Righteousness; Solomon’s Comparisons of Righteous & Wicked Wheel-tracks in Proverbs; What You Think Is Who You Are, Prov 23:7; Imperfect Tense of “Slay” in Ps 34:21 Indicates That the Wicked Are Systematically Executed by Their Evil Ways; the Hatred Complex

56. The phrase “begin making” is the present active imperative of the verb **poišw (poiéō)**: “be making.”
57. The present tense is tendential and is used for an action which is demanded to occur but not actually taking place. The renovation of the soul has not yet begun but, under the active voice, the believer is under mandate to produce the action of beginning the process.
58. “Straight paths” are what the believer is under orders to start making. The word “straight” is the noun **ŃrqÒj (orthós)**: [the prefix for “orthopedic”]: “Erect, upright; to stand straight up. In a moral sense, straight as opposed to crooked: upright, true, right, good.”
59. That which is to be made strait is mentioned next with the noun **troci£ (trochiá)**: “wheel-track”: used figuratively for one’s lifestyle, character traits, and behavior patterns.
60. The imagery of walking in a straight wheel-track comes next, the plural noun **poÚj (pous)**: “foot” (e.g., a British term for infantry). The word’s use here is metonymical¹ for the instrument of moving, often ascribed to a person who moves about.
61. In verse 13, the writer of Hebrews borrows this concept from:

¹ “A figure of speech consisting of the use of the name of one thing for that of another of which it is an attribute or with which it is associated” (*Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed., s.v. “metonymy”).

Proverbs 4:26 - Watch the path [IG*u=m^ (ma'ghal): track] of your feet and all your ways [Er\D\ (derek): a road traveled] will be established.

62. All of the words that refer to moving straight along a passageway of some sort are metaphorical for how one thinks which determines how he acts. Paths, ways, tracks, ruts, and the like refer to decision-making based on soul inventory.
63. From these words and the verses in which they appear, we developed a study on the neural pathways of the brain which contain our inventory of ideas.
64. Proverbs gave us the terminology we used to distinguish between behavior patterns that line up with the Word of God and those that do not do so: "wheel-tracks of righteousness" for the former and "wheel-tracks of wickedness" for the latter.
65. We will not consult any of them now, but to make the point on how rich Proverbs is in its comparisons of the two lifestyles, here is a comprehensive although not complete list of verses for your personal perusal:
Proverbs 10:3, 11, 16, 24-25, 28, 30, 32; 11:8, 10, 21, 23, 31; 12:5, 7, 10, 12, 26; 13:5, 9, 25; 14:19, 32; 15:6, 28-29; 18:5; 21:12, 18; 24:15, 24; 25:26; 28:1, 12, 28; 29:2, 7, 16. (KJV)
66. These 38 verses clearly dramatize the ongoing conflict that rages between the production of believers who have facilitated wheel-tracks of righteousness and those with facilitated wheel-tracks of wickedness.
67. They further illustrate the conflict of visions that exists between representatives of each mind-set and explains the present tug-of-war in client nation America between traditionalists and Progressives.

68. There is a verse in Proverbs 23 that gives guidance on dealing with attackers:

Proverbs 23:7 - For as a man calculates in his soul, so he is.

69. In evaluating yourself as well as those with whom you associate, remember this: consistent behavior patterns are indicative of what is in the soul. By this you can accurately self-evaluate as well as discern the motivations of others.

70. And it is the content of a person's soul that determines the life he lives. Good decisions based on guidance from the Word of God broaden future options while bad decisions based on guidance from human viewpoint limit future options.

71. When wheel-tracks of wickedness are facilitated into paths of least resistance, are not stopped by rebound, and inhibited by spiritual growth, the person will lead an extremely unhappy life and ultimately die the sin unto death.

72. This is the principle that the opening line of Psalm 34:21 is making: "Evil will systematically execute the wicked!"

73. This translation brings out the intensive action of the Polel stem of the verb *muth* (to slay) whose imperfect tense indicates the action is ongoing, therefore, a "systematic execution" of the "wicked" individual under the law of volitional responsibility.

74. Who is in view here? Saul, Doeg, the Philistines, and the various attackers of Israel which David and his army subdued.

75. In verse 20, it was established that David's person was protected and preserved because his destiny was to become king of Israel.

76. By observing the process by which he was able to defeat his attackers, David concludes that those who function under the motivation of evil will face systematic execution while he endured and prospered.

Psalm 34:21 - Evil will systematically execute the wicked! And those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

1. The second sentence takes up the cosmic system of hatred. The word hate is the Qal active participle of the plural verb **an@c* (sane')**: "to hate."
2. The object of the hatred is directed toward the righteous, **qyD!x^ (saddiyq)**: the righteous generally refers to those who have received the imputation of divine righteousness at the moment of salvation.
3. It must be emphasized however, that many who are saved have made no advance in the plan of God. Instead they have entered into reversionism and they too are numbered among the attackers.
4. Therefore, the emphasis here is on those believers who have successfully moved through the four volitional challenges for spiritual growth and emerged among the spiritually mature.