

IS GAMBLING WRONG?

There can be only one master. Money is a god to many. Matthew 6.19-24

Gambling has no redeeming qualities (i.e., good work ethics, improving the character of others, nor does it provide a beneficial virtuous service) and has as its sole purpose to get rich.

"The love of money is a root of all sorts of evil" 1 Timothy 6.10

Paul writes, "those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction." 1 Timothy 6.9

Gambling preys on the weak (and thus is antithetical to Christ mission) and ignites greed. Romans 15.1-3; 2 Corinthians 9.9 Jesus said, "Beware and be on your guard against every form of greed. For not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions." Luke 12.15

Scripture demonstrates that those who love and highly esteem money will either scoff at God or exploit His message. Luke 16.14,15; Acts 8.18-20

Scripture further teaches that it is better to give than to receive and far better to give than to take. Acts 20.35; 1 Corinthians 6.6,7; Matthew 5.40-42

Scripture elevates hard work and good work ethics while rebuking those who receive things without working for them. 1 Thessalonians 4.11,12; 2 Thessalonians 3.6-15

Proverbs says:

"ill-gotten gains do not profit" Prov 10.2

"the wicked earns deceptive wages" Prov 11.18

"wealth obtained by vanity dwindles but the one who gathers by labor increases it" Prov 13.11

"In all labor there is profit" Prov 14.23

"It is better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the rich" Prov 16.19

"What is desirable in a man is his kindness, and it is better to be poor than a liar" Prov 19.22

"An inheritance gained hurriedly at the beginning will not be blessed in the end." Prov 20.21

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty" Prov 21.5

"He who loves pleasure will become a poor man;" Prov 21.17

"The desire of the sluggard puts him to death, for his hands refuse to work; all day long he craves while the righteous gives and does not hold back" Prov 21.25,26

"Every man's way is right in his own eyes but the Lord weighs the heart" Prov 21.2

"There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" Prov 16.25