

GAMBLING, THE LITTLE KNOWN SIN #5

What is so sinful about gambling?

11) Gambling is sinful because it exploits others. It seeks to promote yourself while taking advantage of others. *“That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such...”* (1 Thess. 4:6). In order to be a winner, there must be losers.

12) Gambling is sinful because it is not a good work. It does not glorify God. *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 5:16). Does gambling and being a winner make people think more kindly of us in a spiritual way? Does it show the world how meek, reverent, holy, respectful we are? Does it show the world more devotion to the Lord and his church? You know the answer is NO.

13) Gambling is sinful because it is not avoiding evil. First Thessalonians 5:22 tells us to *“Abstain from all appearance of evil.”* Given all the evidence before us, no one can successfully deny that gambling is evil on every side. We must avoid it, not embrace it. *“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righ-*

teously, and godly, in this present world” (Titus 2:11-12).

14) Gambling is sinful because it is not walking with God. *“He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God”* (Micah 6:8). Gambling does not promote God, Christ, the church, home, family, heaven. It does not make people show more devotion to things that are holy. Instead, gambling desecrates and blasphemes the Lord’s way.

Gambling takes many forms: *lottery, roulette wheel, card games, dice, numbers, races, slot machines, elections, sweepstakes, sporting events, sports pools, punch boards, bingo, bunco, raffle tickets, buying chances, cake walks, matching coins, pitching pennies, etc. etc.* There is no limit to what people will bet on in an effort to take advantage of others.

Brethren, DO NOT buy or sale chances, even if it’s for a good cause. If you want to help a good cause, give a donation — don’t gamble. Your soul is at stake. To promote, sell or buy lottery tickets involves one in that which violates the law of God. Repent if you’re guilty!

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—Garland M. Robinson