

# IT IS A SIN TO HAVE A PART IN THE LOTTERY

It is SIN to have a part in a state lottery. To promote, sell or buy lottery tickets involves one in that which violates the law of God. A lottery is gambling, and gambling is SIN.

The principle by which all men are to live involves an honest work ethic. Paul wrote by inspiration saying, “*Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men*” (Rom. 12:17). “*Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth*” (Eph. 4:28).

The very nature of gambling seeks to take advantage of others by taking what they have for your own. A lottery is not an honest day’s work for an honest day’s pay.

A lottery (gambling) involves one who is a *winner* but only at the expense of others who participate being losers. The fact that others are willing participants does not matter. Two or more people agreeing to steal does not make it right. Two or more people agreeing to commit fornication does not make it right.

Those who participate in a lottery are not good stewards of the possessions God has given them. “*Moreover it is required in*

*stewards, that a man be found faithful*” (1 Cor. 4:2). Gambling appeals to one’s greed, selfishness, covetousness. The Bible plainly says, “*Thou shalt not covet*” (Rom. 13:9). “*...Covetousness...is idolatry*” (Col. 3:5).

Participating in a lottery for a “good cause” does not change the sinfulness of it. Buying chances or raffle tickets is gambling. If you desire to help a good cause, then give them a donation. Gambling is involved in: a roulette wheel, card games, dice, numbers, horse or dog races, slot machines, elections, sweepstakes tickets, sporting events, sports pools, punch boards, bingo, bunco, raffle tickets, buying chances, cake walks, matching coins, pitching pennies. The list is unlimited! **Anything, everything can be made into gambling by those who seek to exploit and take advantage of others.**

A lottery is SIN because... **It violates the golden rule** of doing unto others as you would have them do unto you (Matt. 7:12). **It is not a good work** by which we should let our light shine before men (Matt. 5:16).

Are you involved in gambling? Repent while you can!

— Garland M. Robinson