

God's word on gambling

Gambling is a desire to have more than one has and getting it by someone else's loss (this is covetousness). At the core of the person wanting to participate in gambling is a heart of dissatisfaction with what he has, which is at root, a dissatisfaction with what God has provided. It is a heart that is affected with ungratefulness. Often we try to temper this by saying, it's just a game or for fun. This is not what God calls it. A child of God must ask himself, *Does this please God?* If it doesn't then it shouldn't be done. To ignore or violate what His word says or His pleasure is, is to sin (and sin always brings unwanted consequences and grief).

Let God's word guide your thinking and guard the path of your pursuits.

Exodus 20:17, "Thou shalt not covet..."

Luke 3:14, And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and **be content** with your wages.

1 Timothy 6:9-11, But they that **will be rich** fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For **the love of money** is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

Luke 12:15, And he said unto them, Take heed, and **beware of covetousness**: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Mark 7:20-23, And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, **covetousness**, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Ephesians 5:3, But fornication, and all uncleanness, or **covetousness**, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

Colossians 3:5-6, Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness**, which is idolatry: **for which things' sake the wrath of God cometh** on the children of **disobedience**:

Hebrews 13:5, Let your conversation be without **covetousness**; and **be content with such things as ye have**: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Other Scriptures to consider:

- Matthew 25:14-30
- Proverbs 15:27

Gambling and the Lottery violate Biblical principles:

Faith

Proverbs 28:20

Trusting God for our daily needs. Matthew 6:11, 25-33;

God-honoring stewardship

Luke 16:1-15; 1 Corinthians 4:2,7

Hard work

Proverbs 13:11

Proverbs 28:19-22

Avoid greed

Proverbs 23:4,5; 28:22; I Timothy 6:9

Blameless

1 Thessalonians 5:21

Glorifying God in all things

I Corinthians 10:31

Thankfulness and gratefulness

Ephesians 5:20; I Thessalonians 5:18; James 1:17

Loving God and neighbor

Gambling is a love for self and a willingness to see others lose so that you can win. This violates Mt 22:36-38,40

Contentment

I Timothy 6:6-11, 17; Hebrews 13:5-16

Integrity

Proverbs 11:1

If you have questions or need further guidance, please feel free to contact us.

BBNchat.org or leave an email at BBNbi@bbnmedia.org