

Gambling and the lottery

Is it a sin to play the lottery?

Is the lottery gambling?

What if I use some of my winnings for a spiritual purpose?

As a Christian we must make a decision about what we do
with the possessions that the Lord blesses us with!

Is the lottery coming to Alabama?

Gambling and the lottery

What is gambling (gaming)?

To play at any game of chance for stakes. Involves wagering or betting. In gambling one stands to gain at and by the loss of others. The deciding factor as to who will gain or loose is determined by an event that is arbitrarily selected or contrived by those participating in the gambling.

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Gambling is an unrighteous way of getting gain.

Three laws of rightly getting gain:

1. Law of labor – wages received for work
2. Law of exchange – commodity purchased with money or goods
3. Law of love – money or goods received as a gift

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What is wrong with gambling?

There is no specific command in the word of God that says
“You shall not gamble”

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What is wrong with gambling?

The motivation for gambling is covetousness.

Covetousness –

A greedy desire to have more. Desiring something that belongs to someone else without regard to right or wrong.

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Mark 7:20-22

And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

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Luke 12:15-21

Then He said to them, "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." And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.'"

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Colossians 3:5

Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

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What is wrong with gambling?

Gambling is the opposite of loving our neighbor

Matthew 22:36-39

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

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Gambling is the opposite of loving our neighbor

Romans 13:8-10

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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How does gambling effect our nation?

Americans gamble more money than they spend on groceries.

\$600 billion is wagered legally in the United States every year.

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How does gambling effect our nation?

In inner-city areas, gambling is seen as a
“ticket out of poverty”.

When state lotteries are proposed the public is assured that enormous funds will be generated for education, despite studies showing that after states legalize lotteries they actually reduce spending for education.

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How can gambling affect our life?

It lessens one's ability to provide for his own

Proverbs 15:27

He who profits illicitly troubles his own house,
But he who hates bribes will live.

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How can gambling affect our life?

It lessens one's ability to provide for his own

1 Timothy 5:8

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

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How can gambling affect our life?

Gambling is addictive

The thrill of the outcome –

Card games

Horse racing

Any sporting event

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How can gambling affect our life?

Gambling is addictive

Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

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Gambling is addictive

1 Corinthians 6:12

All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable.
All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

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How can gambling affect our life?

Gambling gains evil companions

1 Corinthians 15:33

Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

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How can gambling affect our life?

Gambling leads to other sins

Titus 3:3

For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

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How can gambling affect our life?

Gambling sets an example that may cause another to sin

Romans 14:13

Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this — not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

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Gambling indicates a lack of trust in God

Matthew 6:25-33

"For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? "And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,

What must I do to be saved?

Hear the gospel

Matthew 13:23

Believe in the Lord

Mark 16:16

Repent of your sins

Acts 2:38

Confess your belief

Romans 10:10

Be baptized for remission of sin

Acts 22:16

