

Q: "Gambling"..... including things that some people may not realize is gambling, such as the lottery...

What is “gambling”? Define. (Two *different* definitions—one OK, one...our study)

- “*n. an act or undertaking involving risk of loss*”
e.g., farmer, business, etc.
- “*v.i. to play games of chance for money or some other stake*” - our study (defin. > WNWD)

“Gambling” we are studying by design
depends on the inevitable loss of others

Examples:

- Casino: Roulette wheel, cards (e.g. Blackjack), slot machines
- State, national: Lottery, scratch off
- Sports: Horse & dog races, football pools
- Local: Pitching pennies, raffles, “bingo”

“Gambling” we are studying by design depends on the inevitable loss of others

What principles in the following scriptures bear on “gambling”...?

▶ **Rom 13:7-10**

“*Love your neighbor as yourself*”

“does no harm” NKJV

▶ **1Co 10:24**

not “seek own” [‘good,’ interest] ...

but neighbor’s [good, ‘well-being’ NKJV]

Eph 4:28 Working to provide, not rob

1Co 5:10, 6:10 Swindling - ?

By design, gambling depends on the **inevitable loss of others** regardless of their suffering.
Harm to fellow man is inherent in its practice.

- Does the loss associated with gambling cause injury to society?
- Is it isolated or widespread?
- Is it uncommon or usual?
- Do people suffer as a result of legalized gambling?

Studies and history point to ...

- ▶ Destroys families
- ▶ Increases crime (street and organized)
- ▶ Especially negatively impacts poor & low income

What principles in the following scriptures bear on “gambling”...?

▶ **Lk 12:15f** “Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed/coveteousness”

- ~~God~~ - **Jos 7:21, 1Tim 6:10, Jer 6:13**

- ~~Man~~ - **Ex 20:17; Rom 13:9 ... Mic 2:2, Jer 22:17**

The tendency to ignore all the warnings of reason and revelation because one wants to gamble is precisely “covetousness”!

What principles in the following scriptures bear on “gambling” ...?

▶ Rom 12:17; 2Co 8:21; 1Co 9:19-22

Provide for things honorable in the sight of men

- Forbidden, spoken against by many religious people.
- Outlawed in many states due to its harmful social effects
- Invites organized crime; fosters embezzlement; breeds political corruption; creates economic waste and poverty. Sports stand against it.

What principles in the following scriptures bear on “gambling”...?

- ▶ **Rom 13:1-7** *violates civil law*
- ▶ **1Co 8:12,13** *cause others to sin*

Q: Cannot the same be said of TV, sensual attire?

Answer:

- *If it can, does it make gambling OK??*
- *Same rule applies...! Turn the TV channel; change attire!*

What principles in the following scriptures bear on “gambling”...?

▶ Gen 2:5...15; 1Th 4:11-12; 2Th 3:10

Militates against God's plan for all to work

God's author. plans for obtaining possessions

a) Exchange: whether of

• service Eph 4:28; 2 Th 3:8; Lk 10:7, or,

• goods Mt 25:27; 13:44-46; Ac 16:14

b) Gift: Eph 4:28; Ac 11:29ff

Efforts to Justify

No difference than farming, business

- Difference — in THIS gambling, *someone must lose and someone WILL lose.*
- Illustration
 - Bus. invest., stocks - ALL to GAIN
 - Gambling - MOST MUST LOSE

Efforts to Justify

TV? ... cause loss of time, money, family?

- Difference — in gambling, that *someone must lose is INEVITABLE*. TV - loss due to misuse.
- BOTH wrong when used to gain at *inevitable* loss of others!

Efforts to Justify

Proceeds for good causes (jobs, education)

- Cost to repair evil outweigh proceeds?
- **Rom 3:8** “do evil that good may come”?
- Robin Hood

Efforts to Justify

Not condemned by name

- True - but neither is “nudity,” “pushing drugs,” “pornography,” “suicide.”
- Bible not encyclopedia. Principles to be applied. See scriptures throughout lesson.

Efforts to Justify

Limited amount, so negligible loss or injury

- How limit? People buy multiple tickets.
- Where draw the line?
- Sure way to avoid - *never start*. **1Tim 6:10**

Efforts to Justify

Not gamble for money, but for fun

- Then leave the money out!
- “Fun” justify harm to others, undermine influence for Christ?

Efforts to Justify

Those involved “agree” to whatever loss they suffer (“by consent”).

- Justify wife-swapping, fornication, dueling, suicide ... ?
- Rom 1:32

Efforts to Justify

Everybody takes a risk. Life is a gamble.

- Define the **KIND** of “gambling” discussed
Compare: Everybody has “sex.” Therefore
“sex” between the unmarried OK!
- **Farmer** successful - **BOTH** he and
consumer benefit; **Gambler** successful -
someone **SUFFERS LOSS**.

- Parents
- Set proper example
- Provide wholesome entertainment, duties for children
- Learn and teach children the evils of this and other allurements
- 1Co 10:31