

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL WITH GAMBLING?

With...

- the “biggest betting event in history” having just concluded...
- 24/7 bets being made on the most mundane of things...
- worldwide betting platforms constantly advertised and conveniently available in the palms of our hands...
- our culture drawing alarming attention to “the rising cost of online betting addiction among young men”...

...is there any wisdom or warning from the Bible we ought to be aware of as disciples of Jesus?

“Life is meant to be spent for the _____ of God and the _____ of others.” (Matt 22:34-40; 1 Cor 10:31; 1 Pet 4:10). That includes our God-given resources that allow us to:

- _____ for our families (1 Tim 5:8)
- Cheerfully _____ (2 Cor 9:6-8)
- Wisely _____ for the future (Prov 21:5; 31:25)

Gambling is placing those resources at risk—without producing goods, services, or lasting value—on an outcome largely governed by chance, with the goal of personal gain at the expense of others. **So what’s the big deal?**

- We’re called to work as faithful _____ (Matt 25:14-15; 1 Cor 4:12; Eph 4:28; 1 Thes 4:10-12; 2 Thes 3:7-12)

Does gambling reflect the _____ of a faithful steward?

- We’re warned about the _____ of money and the effect it will have on our hearts (1 Tim 6:6-10; Eccl 5:10-12; Luke 16:10-13; 12:15)

Will gambling help me cultivate _____ or fuel a sense of covetousness?

- We must guard against being “_____” or “mastered” by anything (1 Cor 6:12; Prov 13:11; 25:28)

Will gambling strengthen the resolve of my _____-control or erode it?

Whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, let’s live with 1 Chronicles 29:10-14 awareness and practice the Acts 20:35 words of the Lord Jesus.