

Sermon Notes: Gambling



1) Affects Our View of God (Matt. 6:25-34; 10:30; Exod. 20:17)

2) Affects Our View of Others (Phil. 2:3-4; Zech. 7:9-10; 1Cor.10:31-33)

3) Affects Our View of Ourselves (Matt. 25:14-30; Gen. 2:15; Exod. 20:9; 1Tim. 6:10)

(Other: Matt. 7:15-17; Eph. 5:3 greed; 1Thes. 5:22 evil; 2Cor. 5:7 faith)

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Food for Thought: Is gambling a weed or fruit?

"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

Grapes are not gathered from thorn {bushes} nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit."

-Matthew 7:15-17

The ABCs of Gambling

Addiction: Increased availability and accessibility of gambling increase addiction.

Bankruptcy: Gambling facilities increase surrounding areas' bankruptcies.

Crime: Research shows that gambling establishments increase area crimes.

Suicide: One out of every five addicted gamblers will attempt suicide.

God has given His people instructions for living healthy and godly lives. The Bible tells us we can discern between fruit trees that nourish and build healthy lives and thistles or weeds that strangle and destroy people and families.

Is Alabama for sale to the highest bidder? Will Alabama families allow illegal bingo slots to invade public, family friendly areas in your state? Determine for yourself whether gambling is a *weed* or a *fruit-bearing tree* that strengthens families and increases Alabama's wellbeing.

The Nature of Gambling:

Gambling is the art and science of deception that feeds on the exploitation of human weakness for the sole purpose of monetary gain. The only "winner" is the casino owner.



Know a tree by its fruit ...

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