



## DRINKING, SMOKING & DRUGS:

# Are they SINS or Just a WILD FRIDAY NIGHT?







• Answer: ?

• Answer: **No** ...(*let's not be legalistic*)

- "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.
  - (1 Corinthians 6:12)

(... get used to seeing this  $\bigcirc$ )

 For the record, consumption is not a sin (assuming the motive is not sinful)
 Addiction is a sin (1 Corinthians 6:12)

Note: Denial of the addiction does not pardon it

- Addiction
  - To be controlled by, enslaved to, or compelled to engage in a particular habit or practice

 Addiction implies making a substance one's "god." We know doing so is sinful.

- (Exodus 20:3; Matthew 6:24)

- "Drinking" (as in consuming alcohol)
  is NOT a sin
  - (...if you are of **legal** age)

The Bible does discourage much drinking
 – (Titus 2:3; 1 Timothy 3:8)

- But there's nothing wrong with *moderate* drinking, like drinking a bit of wine for illnesses
  - (1 Timothy 5:23)

 While "*drinking*" is not a sin, getting "*drunk*" is a sin (Romans 13:13)

- Drunkards won't go to Heaven without repenting
  - (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Ephesians 5:18; etc.)
  - and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.
    - (Galatians 5:21)

- Though the Bible tends to portray drinkers negatively
  - (Proverbs 20:1; 31:6; Isaiah 56:11-12; Micah 2:11)
- ...and non-drinkers positively
  - (Proverbs 31:4)
- it is NOT A SIN to drink modestly

- But keep in mind:
  - We don't want to give Satan a foothold
    - (Ephesians 4:27)
  - or be unaware of his schemes
    - (2 Corinthians 2:11)

Satan has tricked many into drinking (*just* once) before binding them with addiction, disease, and/or death.

(This applies for smoking, malicious drug use, etc. as well)

 That's why I say, not God, that if you have not started drinking it's best you don't start

(You won't have to worry about having too much if you don't have any at all)

- While casual drinking is permissible it is not generally beneficial
  - But let the Holy Spirit convict you, not me 🙂

 If you do chose to drink (modestly) don't let anyone condemn you

- (Colossians 2:16)

 But remember the point of Romans 14:21:
 Don't drink things around people that may cause them to stumble!

... (excuse the pun 🙂)

**Note:** This applies to food, etc. as well.

• Answer: ?

- Answer: There are strong biblical cases for YES
  & NO
- ... but I lean toward NO
  - WHY?

- "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.
  - (1 Corinthians 6:12)

 Puffing a cigarette, cigar, or other LEGAL smoke may be permissible, but it is widely not beneficial

• Sorry marijuana enthusiasts... because smoking pot is illegal it is a sin ⊗

... in most states at least 😳

 Nevertheless, if one's motive for puffing is somehow not sinful

- (e.g. legal medical treatment, etc.)

• then technically it is permissible

- However... If one smokes to:
  - get a physical fix (satisfy an addiction)
  - break rules of reigning authorities
  - etc.
  - it is a sin

**Remember:** Once one is **addicted** (*mastered by the substance*) he or she scores a touchdown in the **sin**-zone.

(\*\*shrug\*\* Well, it sounded clever in my head 🙂)

 Again, just because something is permissible does not mean it should be done.

• Answer: ?

- Answer: It Depends
- Is it a sin to do **illegal drugs**?

- Answer: ?

- Is it a sin to do **illegal drugs**?
  - Answer: YES!
    - WHY?

- Is it a sin to do **illegal drugs**?
  - Answer: YES!
    - WHY!

#### ...BECAUSE THEY'RE ILLEGAL!!!

- Is it a sin to do prescription or over the counter drugs?
  - Answer: ?

- Is it a sin to do prescription or over the counter drugs?
  - Answer: Depends on the motive

- It's ok to do (prescription) drugs when:
  - You need medical treatment
  - Etc.

(Basically ok if there's no sinful motive or action)

- It's a sin to do (prescription) drugs when:
  - It's not your prescription
  - You take drugs to get high
  - You want to harm yourself
  - Etc.

(Basically wrong if there's a sinful motive or action)

- Getting drunk or high (from smoking, drugs, or other) is a sin
  - "Drunk" or "high" means you are "under the influence" aka mastered by the substance

And remember, we should not be "mastered" by anything (1 Corinthians 6:12)

- Everything is technically **permissible**, (pending on motive) but whether:
  - smoke
  - drink
  - drug
  - chocolate
  - etc.
- don't let anything master you!

- In all cases, just because you can do it does not mean you should.
- Don't give Satan a foothold



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