

# **EASTERN BLOCK**

## **GAMBLING AND BETTING**

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# DEFINITION: GAMBLING

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- to play a game in which you can win or lose money or possessions or other valuable things
- to risk losing (an amount of money) in a game or bet
- to risk losing (something valuable or important) in order to do or achieve something
- to play a game for money or property : to bet on an uncertain outcome
- to take a chance

# DEFINITION: BETTING

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- to risk losing something (such as money) if your guess about what will happen is wrong
- to make decisions that are based on the belief that something will happen or is true

# DEFINITION: WHAT IS MISSING

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- An act by which one party consciously risks money or other stakes
- Hoping that he/she will make a gain
- Done at the expense of another person
- Nothing of value is given in return to the person from whom one has gained

# TYPES OF GAMBLING

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- Horse Racing: Odds stuck against you
- Casino Games: The house always wins
- Raffle Tickets: For a good cause; one wins, many lose
- Lottery: Promises big wins on advertisements
- Betting: Placing and hoping
- Free Gifts: Supermarkets, petrol stations, etc.
- Bingo Jackpot: You are the next winner
- Ponzi Schemes/Pyramid Schemes

# QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

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1. Gambling is wrong; but what is wrong with Betting?
2. What if Gambling is more thinking and calculation than chance? What if I have been winning my bets?
3. What if it's budgeted for and there is no addiction?
4. Is it condemned in the Bible? Can one who is addicted be a Christian?
5. What about Insurance? Financial Investments?
6. Is it wrong if the parties have agreed to the outcome?
7. Does Casting the Lot equal Gambling?

# BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

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1. Gambling is NOT explicitly mentioned in the Bible:  
BUT is it Beneficial? 1 Corinthians 6:12
2. Stewardship: Of resources given by God. Luke 18, 1  
Corinthians 4:2. Glorifying God with it? 1  
Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 6:19-21, :24.
3. It hurts others: Matthew 22:39, 1 Corinthians 10:24
4. It preys on the weak Romans 14:21, Rom 15:1-2
5. Work ethic: Genesis 2:15 ... Little by little make it  
grow, Proverbs 13:11

# BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

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6. Addiction. We should not be mastered by anything:  
1 Corinthians 6:12, 2 Peter 2:19
7. Motivation: Greed - Gen 3:1-6, Luke 12:15;  
Discontentment - 1 Ti 6:9-10; Depression
8. Faith: OR Chance? Romans 14:23
9. Culture: Associated with Criminal activity. Casinos  
and Clubs? Makes others stumble. 1 Cor 8:9-13
10. What Would Jesus Do?



# THE IMPACT OF GAMBLING

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POSITIVE (Very Few)

1. Charities ... KCS
2. Governments taxation and service
3. Raffles raise for a need

# THE IMPACT OF GAMBLING

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NEGATIVE (Far Outweigh the good!)

1. Irresponsibility

- Broken marriages
- Broken families

2. Depression

- Sickneses and hospitalizations

- Increase in suicides

3. Addictions

- Sensuality
- Drugs

# CONCLUSION

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- Are all forms of gambling and levels sinful? Probably not .
  - Life is full of risky choices; Be careful.
- Gambling is NOT a good choice. It contributes to the sufferings of others
- We need to trust that God will provide for our needs.  
Philippians 4:19.

**God bless!**