

DRUG ABUSE

IT IS ILLEGAL:

Romans 13:1-5

Civil leaders of government are God's servants and we are to be subject to them. We are to submit and obey the laws. The ONLY time we don't obey is when it goes directly against God's laws. We are to submit and obey out of reverence for God's authority. See also Titus 3:1-2

1 Peter 2:13,14

In most aspects of daily life, it is desirable (and what God asks of us) for Christians to live according to the law of their land. We are all commanded to cooperate with our governing leaders as far as conscience will allow. The general purpose of legal authority is to punish wrong and command right.

IT IS INTOXICATION OR DRUNKENNESS:

Romans 13:12-14

We are to put away all deeds of darkness from our lives. Crime, violence, drunkenness are all deeds of darkness. A Christian's lifestyle must be pure and holy. Make no plans to satisfy the fleshly desires.

Galatians 5:19-21

We all have evil desires that we must decisively crucify (Galatians 5:24). A list of these is found in this reference....drunkenness being one of these. This list was only representative and not exhaustive. Paul adds the words "and the like."

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

In these verses, Paul is describing characteristics of unbelievers. Christians come out of all types of backgrounds and some may still struggle with evil desires. Jesus can change lives. However, those who persist in these practices with no sign of remorse will not inherit the kingdom of God. We need to be careful that in our permissive society that we overlook or tolerate some immoral behavior and remain outraged at others.

IT IS A LACK OF SOBRIETY OR SELF-CONTROL:

1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

Standing on the threshold of an event that will mean sudden translation for some and sudden destruction for others, Christians should arm themselves for action with self control. Be awake, be watchful, be sober, be armed and be guarded.

1 Peter 1:13-17

The imminent return of Christ should motivate us to be daily living for Him. This means being mentally alert. One cannot do this if we are polluting our body with substances that dull the senses and our thinking.

1 Peter 5:8,9

It is a known fact that lions will attack the sick, the young or straggling animals. They choose victims who are alone or not alert. The same with Satan! The word “resist” in verse 9 means “withstand.” (Uses also in James 4:7)

1 Corinthians 9:25-27

Paul makes a comparison with an athlete in training (requiring personal discipline/strict training). Winning a race requires this as well. The Christian life takes hard work, self denial, and grueling preparation. Paul would not let his body master him.

IF YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN, YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

1 Corinthians 6:19

Our bodies don't belong to us. They belong to God. Therefore, we should be diligent and very careful what we do with our body or what we put into them. Just as all the utensils in the Tabernacle were holy (separated from all common and profane uses) so should every part of us...including our bodies.