

The Bible Banner



May 2025

Character Reflections

Many years ago, in 1893, the second class section of a train in New Zealand was filled with rough, boisterous, yelling, stomping, smoking men. Many of them were heavily loaded with alcoholic drinks and their effects. An elderly Christian lady traveling in the midst of this confusion later recounted in her diary how she was having to make quite an effort to keep her mind on Jesus and was asking for His grace to sustain and comfort her in the situation. Then she recounted happily, *"Exactly opposite us sat three Maori young men who were quiet, intelligent-looking lads. They struck up a song in English and with clear, musical voices sang of Christ and the pardoning love of God to sinners. Oh, how refreshing! It was indeed as cold water to a thirsty soul. They sang hymn after hymn, and I thanked them for thus doing. They stated, pointing to the boisterous [fellows], 'They are showing their colors, and we must show our colors.'"*^{**} As the wickedness on this planet increases, it is time for God's people to show their colors. For indeed it is written, *"Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"* 1 Peter 2:9 *{4MR 102.1}

Vegetable Lasagna

9 lasagna noodles (boiled and drained)
Sesame cheese for top**

Veggie mixture

1 cup seasoned bread crumbs

Sauce mixture

Veggie mixture	
1 10 oz. pkg. spinach, chopped	2 cups carrot, grated
1 medium onion, chopped	¼ cup chives
2 garlic cloves, pressed	½ tsp oregano
	½ tsp basil

Sauce Mixture	
2 batches tofu sour cream*	1 cup soymilk, organic
1 Tbsp Vegetable salt**	1 Tbsp Chicken-like seasoning**
1 Tbsp Lawry-like seasoning salt**	



Sauté the onion and veggie mixture. Then blend the sauce mixture, placing just enough to coat pan and keep noodles from sticking in the 9x13 inch (23x33-cm) casserole dish. Reserve a little for the very top. Add the rest to cooked veggie mixture. Layer three noodles and then ½ of veggie/sauce mixture. Repeat. Add the last three noodles and top with remaining sauce mixture. Top with sesame cheese & sprinkle with bread crumbs. Bake uncovered at 350°F (175C) for about 30 minutes.

* 1 batch tofu sour cream -- 1 box (12.3 oz) firm silken tofu or garbanzo tofu blended with approximately 3 Tbsp of oil and 3 Tbsp of lemon juice

**Swift Runner Recipes available here-- <https://www.swiftrunministries.com/recipes-seasonings-notmeats-scratch.php> <https://www.swiftrunministries.com/recipes-dressings-dips-and-cheeses.php>

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"When the darkness is deepest, the light of a godlike character will shine the brightest. When every other trust fails, then it will be seen who have an abiding trust in Jehovah." {Acts of the Apostles, pg.431}

Profitable Traditions — Cultivate Contentment

Although playing *The Paul and Silas Game* is directed toward children, adults could benefit also. The goal is, like Paul and Silas, to learn to sing when trouble comes. Stub your toe? Sing. Have to wait longer than expected? Sing. Etc.

Not only did Paul sing when trouble came, Paul wrote, *"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."* Philippians 4:11b And, indeed, *"Godliness with contentment is great gain."* 1 Timothy 6:6



Whose Image?

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

"Women!" quipped our toddler in response to some unknown aggravation as we were unloading our children from the car to go into the store. I wasn't sure whether to laugh or reprimand, and so I refrained from either at the moment. I knew very well where the little boy had learned to use that phrase with that tone of voice, but it sounded very different coming out of his mouth than his Daddy's. Indeed, it is by beholding that we are changed, and toddlers and children who copy everything you do, are a good reminder of this fact. This is how it works in the spiritual world too. 2 Corinthians 3:18 states, *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."* Ultimately, if we keep our eyes fixed on Christ, we will be changed into His image. We find that the purpose of studying prophecy is actually for character development; it is for Jesus the Day Star to arise in our hearts. 2 Peter 1:19 states, *"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts."* By its brilliancy, the Day Star exposes counterfeits. And indeed, we find a counterfeit image in the book of Revelation. The third angel of Revelation 14:9-12 warns about another image, the image of the beast. And Revelation 15:2 describes those who get victory over the beast's image. Now the surface truth is obviously about who we worship. Do we worship Jesus by keeping His commandments and having *"the faith of Jesus,"* His image, reproduced in us, or the beast and his image by following his commands and imitating him?

So here we take a plunge into the character layer of Bible prophecy. If we do a little study, we will find that the image in Daniel 2 parallels the beasts in Daniel 7 that are later amalgamated to form the beast of Revelation 13. Understanding all this, we're going to take a look at the image in Daniel, considering the main characteristics of each of the kingdoms represented as described in the Bible.* We will then contrast these negative characteristics with the opposite characteristics as displayed in Christ and His followers. This provides an interesting glimpse into whose image we are forming. Are we forming the beast's image or Christ's?

Now before we continue, let me just say, this topic is such a huge study, there are many different options you could come up with. For simplicity's sake, I have tried to pick the most obvious and easy to explain.

WHOSE IMAGE?



Pride--Babylon (Daniel 4:30,37; 5:20-22)

Infallibility Complex

Believes self incapable of making errors or needing to change/learn
Medo-Persia (Daniel 6:15, Esther 8:8)

Christless False Education

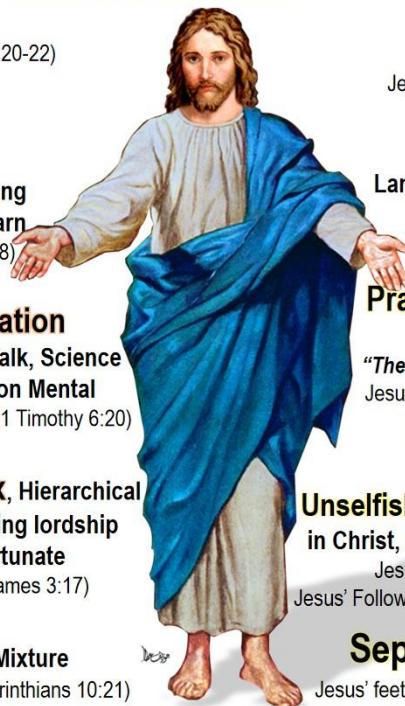
Greek Philosophy/Vain Profitless Talk, Science
Falsely so called, Focuses only on Mental
Greece (1 Corinthians 1:22,23, Acts 17:21, 1 Timothy 6:20)

Selfish Superiority Complex, Hierarchical

Dominance with Partiality, Exercising lordship without mercy for the less fortunate
Rome (Acts 16:37,38 and 22:22-29, James 3:17)

Double-minded, Confused Mixture

Divided kingdom (James 1:8, Luke 16:13, 1 Corinthians 10:21)



Humility, being Humble

Jesus-- Philippians 2:8
Jesus' Followers--1 Peter 5:5, Proverbs 29:23

Meekness, a Teachable Spirit,

Lamb-like even under persecution and insult

Jesus-- Matthew 11:29, Isaiah 53:7, John 8:28
Jesus' Followers-- Psalm 25:9, Matthew 5:5

Practical Godliness, True Education--

Physical, Mental, and Spiritual

"The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom"

Jesus-- John 7:14:15; Matt. 9:35, Luke 2:52, Mark 6:3
Jesus' Followers--Proverbs 9:10, Acts 4:13, Matthew 21:15,16; Isaiah 28:11

Unselfish, Merciful Service, Ministry, Equality in Christ, Care for "the least of these" Matt. 25:34-45

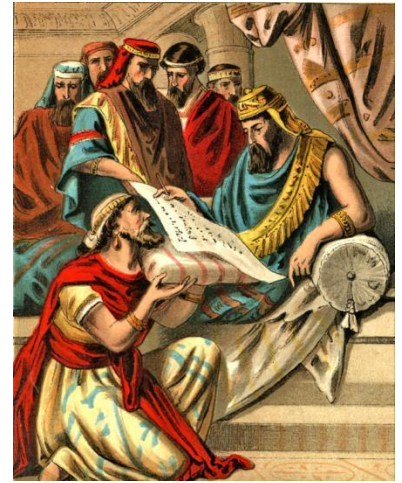
Jesus-- Luke 4:18,21; Mark 10:45, John 3:16
Jesus' Followers-- Mark 10:42-44, Galatians 3:28, Matthew 23:8

Separate from sin/dross,

Jesus' feet, fine brass--Revelation 1:15; 2:18; Hebrews 7:26
Jesus' Followers-- James 4:8, 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

The head of gold on the image represented Babylon. As we have detailed before, Daniel 4:30,37 both show Nebuchadnezzar's problem was pride. Daniel 5:20-22 makes clear that instead of **PRIDE**, we should have **HUMILITY**. First Daniel recounts to Belshazzar how God deposed Nebuchadnezzar of his kingly glory because *"his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride..."* Then Daniel states, *"And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;"* Not surprisingly, though Jesus was the King of Glory, He was humble, not full of pride. Philippians 2:8 details, *"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."* Likewise, Christ's followers should be humble as 1 Peter 5:5 counsels, *"be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."*

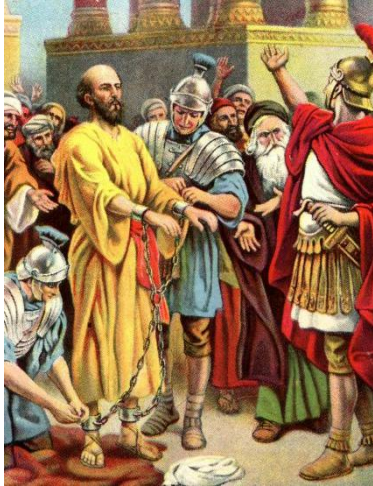
Next on the image came the silver chest and arms representing Medo-Persia. A leading characteristic of Medo-Persia found in the Bible is that when the king made a law it could not be changed (Daniel 6:16, Esther 8:8). A law like this suggests that it is believed you are incapable of making errors. A person like this would not see the need of changing or learning anything new. I call this an **INFALLIBILITY COMPLEX**. I'm sure we all have met people like this, it is impossible to convince them of anything. Spiritually, this is very dangerous. Reproof (like the message to Laodicea) as well as ever advancing truth (Proverbs 4:18) will always be rejected by this class for they think they *"have need of nothing"* (Revelation 3:17). Jesus, even though He was God and therefore infallible still had the opposite of an infallibility complex. He was willing to be taught of His Father (John 8:28), showing **MEEKNESS**. Jesus says, *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart..."* Matthew 11:29 Besides a teachable spirit, meekness also includes lamb-like demeanor even under persecution and insult. At His trial and crucifixion, Jesus demonstrated this just as Isaiah 53:7 prophesied, *"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."* Christ's followers will also manifest meekness for Matthew 5:5 states, *"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."* Those who avoid an infallibility complex and instead are meek enough to be taught by God will gain a blessing for Psalm 25:9 declares, *"The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way."*



The belly and thighs of brass of the image represented Greece. The Greeks were known for their "philosophy," meaning love of wisdom. But according to the Bible their wisdom was **CHRISTLESS FALSE EDUCATION**. 1 Corinthians 1:22,23 states, *"For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness."* *"The Greeks believed that there was need of elevating the human race, but they regarded the study of philosophy and science as the only means of attaining to true elevation and honor."* Acts of the Apostles, pg. 244 In contrast, Christ followers realize that *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."* Proverbs 9:10 Also, instead of **PRACTICAL GODLINESS**, Greek philosophy seemed to create just idle, impractical, profitless talk. Acts 17:21 states, *"(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)"* And Paul warned Timothy of some of this false education, *"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called."* 1 Timothy 6:20 Consider how subtle Christless false education can be in the scientific/medical world. If a patient has a severe burn, for example, their body makes more white blood cells and less red blood cells. From a Christless, Creator-less perspective, a doctor says, *"This body has not evolved enough to know how many red blood cells to make when it is burned. It is not working properly. I must give a drug to reprogram the body."* But the Christian says, *"We are fearfully and wonderfully made. Why did God make our bodies to make more white blood cells when we get burned?"* The answer is, when we get a large section of skin burned off, the greatest risk is infection. White blood cells fight infection. So the body is brilliantly designed by God to maintain production of only the minimum number of red blood cells in order to increase white blood cell production and fight off infection. As you can see, with the same case study there can be two different conclusions based solely on whether the physician believes in God or not. I love how Isaac Newton, a Creation Scientist put it, *"A man may imagine things that are false, but he can only understand things that are true, for if the things be false, the apprehension of them is not understanding."* Indeed, true education is both practical and godly in nature. It includes the physical, mental, and spiritual aspects of mankind. Dr. Luke records of Jesus childhood education, *"And Jesus increased in wisdom [mental] and stature [physical], and in favour with God and man [spiritual]."* This well-rounded education continued throughout the ministry of Christ and the training of his disciples. *"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues [mental], and preaching the gospel of the kingdom [spiritual], and healing every sickness and every disease among the people [physical]."* Matthew 9:35 Of course, Christ and his followers embrace practical godliness and true education. Since all truth radiates from Christ, His kingdom utilizes even the unlearned and makes them wise. Christ used children (Matthew 21:15,16) and fishermen. Acts 4:13 states, *"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."* Jesus himself was taught of God and not of men for John 7:14,15 records, *"Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught. And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?"* So our choice is between the Christless, false education of the Greeks or the practical godliness and true education of Christ.

Much more could be said, but we must move on to legs of iron representing Rome. Both Acts 16:37,38 and 22:22-29 show how, under Roman rule, those who had Roman citizenship, obtained by birth or by price, were treated differently than those of other nations. Acts 16:36-38 records, *"And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace. But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out. And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans."*

So you see a non-citizen could be beaten and bound, uncondemned, but the rules were different for Roman citizens. We will call this the **SELFISH SUPERIORITY COMPLEX**, exerting a merciless lordship over those who are less fortunate than you, creating a



hierarchy of dominance based on partiality of persons. Jesus specifically said it was not to be this way with His followers. *"But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."* Mark 10:42-44. In contrast to a selfish superiority complex, Christians are to exhibit **UNSELFISH, MERCIFUL SERVICE**, ministry to others, and taking time for *"the least of these"* (Matthew 25:34-45). There is no superior race or nationality in God's kingdom.

Galatians 3:28 states, *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."* Even fancy titles and education do not elevate you above others in Christ's kingdom for Jesus said, *"But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren"*. Matthew 23:8 As we follow in Christ's footsteps of unselfish, merciful service to all, it will look like this, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the*

brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised..." Luke 4:18 Without partiality, or a selfish superiority complex, the good news that heaven's King condescended to become *"the Son of man"* (Matt. 8:20) in order to offer salvation to all, is to go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* John 3:16

Oh, what a contrast between the two images! We've but one final piece. The feet of the image was a **CONFUSED MIXTURE** of iron and clay, two things that don't go together. This is a divided kingdom, an unstable foundation. And indeed, *"A DOUBLE MINDED man is unstable in all his ways."* James 1:8 How many today try to mix two things that don't mix? They are neither a good worldlying, nor a good Christian. God lists several things that are not to be mixed. He says, *"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."* 1 Corinthians 10:21 In addition, *"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."* 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

The opposite of the unstable, confused mixture is being **SEPARATE**. In Revelation, Jesus' feet are pictured as fine brass. All dross representing sin has been removed. James 4:8 enjoins the same on us, *"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."* In order to do this we must make a decided choice. Not to choose is to choose the wrong side. I think this story illustrates the point well. Former U.S. president Ronald Reagan once had an aunt who took him to a cobbler for a pair of new shoes. The cobbler asked young Reagan, *"Do you want square toes or round toes?"* Unable to decide, Reagan didn't answer, so the cobbler gave him a few days. Several days later the cobbler saw Reagan on the street and asked him again what kind of toes he wanted on his shoes. Reagan still couldn't decide, so the shoemaker replied, *"Well, come by in a couple of days. Your shoes will be ready."* When the future president did so, he found one square-toed and one round-toed shoe! *"This will teach you to never let people make decisions for you,"* the cobbler said to his indecisive customer. *"I learned right then and there,"* Reagan said later, *"if you don't make your own decisions, someone else will."* We must make a decided choice of which image to imitate. The voice of Elijah echoes down to our day. *"How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him..."* 1 King 18:21

Choose to behold Jesus and reflect His image, today!!

*If you are unfamiliar with how to show what kingdom each part of the Daniel 2 image represents, please visit our website here for further information.
<https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/1%20Bible%20Lesson%20The%20Bible%20Can%20We%20Trust%20It%20-%20Insert.pdf>



Puncture Wound Care

The Connecticut Department of Public Health states *"Tetanus is caused by a toxin (poison) produced by a bacterium, Clostridium tetani. The C. tetani bacteria cannot survive in the presence of oxygen."*¹ This is one reason why puncture wounds are a more likely cause of tetanus than an open wound. It also might suggest that worst case scenario you would have to lance the wound open to allow oxygen in. But an ounce of prevention seems a better idea than having to lance the wound open. A 2024 Canada Communicable Disease report suggests that, *"Prevention of tetanus is achieved through appropriate wound care and immunization."*² However, if you read further down, the report also states, *"Tetanus spores are ubiquitous and this report clearly documents that tetanus cases can occur in individuals previously immunized with tetanus toxoid vaccine."*²

So there you have it, since immunization doesn't always prevent tetanus, the best protection against tetanus is good puncture wound care, not vaccines. Still I was quite nervous when, years ago, my son stepped on a rusty nail almost long enough to go all the way through his foot! In a case like this, a do-nothing plan could be fatal. But here is a wound care plan I learned from the Bible (Luke 10:24, 1 John 1:7), a Christian doctor, and experience.

Steps in Thorough Puncture Wound Care

1. First we made the wound bleed thoroughly to cleanse the wound. God designed us to bleed when we are cut for a reason. The blood helps cleanse the wound by carrying many germs and impurities out with it.
2. Next we soaked the foot in a 3% solution of Hydrogen Peroxide (H_2O_2). The bubbling action will help remove any remaining impurities left behind, and the extra oxygen released in the bubbles can help kill any tetanus bacteria. (Warning: Do not use higher concentrations of hydrogen peroxide for soaking. If you have to water down hydrogen peroxide to make 3% solution, use boiled and cooled water.) If H_2O_2 is not an option where you live, I would probably do a warm saline (salt) water soak for 10 minutes or so.
3. Then we soaked the foot in clean, activated charcoal water. This was an extra precaution I added (to the doctor's) to kill any remaining toxins.
4. And last, after drying the foot, we applied tea tree oil to the wound. Essential oils can absorb more deeply than some other disinfectants. Remember to dilute with a carrier oil according to the package directions. Since some people are allergic to tea tree oil, here are a few other oils with disinfectant properties: frankincense, lemon, grapefruit, eucalyptus, thyme, and oregano.

5. Keep an eye on the wound watching for any infection. After this thorough wound care our son had absolutely no signs of infection whatsoever. In fact, this plan worked so well, the next day our son was back out jumping on the trampoline with no pain!

1- https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/departments-and-agencies/dph/dph/infectious_diseases/immunization/pdf/tetanusfactsheet1pdf.pdf 2- <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5864474/>



Prophetic News Notes -- Gambling Addiction in Children

"A recent study found 60 to 80% of kids aged 13 to 17 admitted to gambling at least once in the last year." In 2023, 11Alive stated, *"As online gambling surges in popularity, research shows more children are subverting age verification safeguards and getting hooked."*¹

Some are even calling it a *"Pandemic of Child Gambling"*² These numbers have risen dramatically in recent years. For example, in 2018, BBC published a news article stating that, *"The number of children classed as having a gambling problem has quadrupled to more than 50,000 in just two years, a report has claimed."* The Gambling Commission study suggests that 450,000 children aged 11 to 16 bet regularly, more than those who have taken drugs, smoked or drunk alcohol... The Young People and Gambling report found...60% of young people think their parents would prefer them not to gamble at all, however only 19% said their parents set strict rules about gambling"³ So, is the problem with the kids, or are the adults blurring the lines? For example, RNZ News reported, *"The line*

*between gaming and gambling is becoming increasingly blurred thanks to in game loot boxes which are designed to mimic gambling, according to the Problem Gambling Foundation."*⁴ Another RNZ report headlined, *"Gambling normalised if children allowed to buy lotto tickets harm prevention agency says."*⁵

Society seems to class gambling, at-risk gambling, and problem gambling in different categories. But when the World Health Organization warns that *"Gambling can threaten health, leading to increased incidence of mental illness and suicide. It can drive poverty by diverting household spending from essential goods and services. Gambling harms also include relationship breakdown, family violence, financial distress, stigma, income-generating crimes (theft, fraud), neglect of children, and erosion of civil institutions via corruption and corporate political activity,"*⁶ the question is, should we be gambling at all? It appears to me that one of the problems is churches, schools, and other "allowed" supervisors do things that are too similar to gambling. Years ago, I protested when a cake walk was featured at a children's function. In the name of fundraising, with a game much like musical chairs, children could venture money for a chance to win a cake. This type of thing confuses children. Why is the church or school form okay, but the world's form is wrong? According to the WHO, *"Gambling is risking money (or another item of value) on an event of uncertain outcome, with the possibility of gaining an increased return. Betting, slot machines, casino games, lotteries and bingo are all forms of gambling."*⁶



Instead of picking and choosing, how much better it would be for Christians to take like a firm stand against ALL gambling because it is wrong. Let's look at a few key Bible texts that show this.

*"A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but **he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.**"* Proverbs 28:20

*"**Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished:** but he that gathereth by labour shall increase."* Proverbs 13:11

"But ye are they that forsake the LORD, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for that troop^{H1409}, and that furnish the drink offering unto that number." Isaiah 65:11 (Hebrew word 1409 is literally "fortune") The 1535 Coverdale Bible actually reads here (with modernized spelling), *"**Ye have set up an altar unto fortune, & give rich drink offerings unto treasure.**"* Gambling also directly appeals to covetousness *"which is idolatry"* according to the Apostle Paul (Colossians 3:5). Covetousness is listed in 2 Timothy 3:1,2 as a characteristic of the last days. *"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous..."* Gambling ultimately breaches the 1st, 2nd, 8th and 10th commandments, and remember, Jesus warned: *"**Ye cannot serve God and mammon [greed/avarice]."*** (Matthew 6:24). For our children's sake we need to take a firm decided position against gambling, for indeed, *"**He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.**"* Proverbs 15:27

- 1- <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/investigations/teen-kids-gambling-online-bets/85-95ded366-a5b9-466c-8ee6-b97acb404cab> 2- <https://iol.co.za/weekend-argus/news/2024-11-23-the-pandemic-of-child-gambling-adolescents-particularly-vulnerable-studies-show/> 3- <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46286945>
4- <https://www.mz.co.nz/news/national/537018/programme-launched-to-combat-impacts-of-gambling-like-games> 5- <https://www.mz.co.nz/news/national/539013/gambling-normalised-if-children-allowed-to-buy-lotto-tickets-harm-prevention-agency-says> 6- <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/gambling>



The Shoe Secret

A large group of European pastors came to a certain Bible Conference in Massachusetts in the late 1800s. Following the European custom of the time, each guest put his shoes outside his room to be cleaned by the hall servants overnight. But of course this was America and there were no hall servants to clean and shine the shoes.

Walking the dormitory halls that night, evangelist D. L. Moody saw the shoes and determined not to embarrass his brothers. He mentioned the need to some ministerial students who were there, but met with only silence or pious excuses. Moody returned to the dorm, gathered up the shoes, and, alone in his room, the world famous evangelist began to clean and polish the shoes. Only the unexpected arrival of a friend in the midst of the work revealed the secret.



When the foreign visitors opened their doors the next morning, their shoes were shined. They never knew by whom. Moody told no one, but his friend told a few people, and during the rest of the conference, different men volunteered to shine the shoes in secret. This episode provides insight into the men that God chooses. For Jesus said, *"**But whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:**"* Matthew 20:26b,27

Kids' Corner

God's Amazing Creatures

Using the following Bible verses can you help the birds find where the Bible says they live?
Job 39:13-15, Job 39:27, Psalm 84:3, Psalm 102:7, Jeremiah 48:28

Ostrich

Swallow

Sparrow

Eagle

Rock Dove



If you would like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter via e-mail, please contact us at biblepathways@hotmail.com

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