

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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God’s Wisdom For Our Weaknesses

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Working daily on one’s weaknesses is the focus of champion athletes. A tennis player whose strength is a forehand slam, may spend more time on his weaker backhand. A golfer who strikes the ball solidly may concentrate on his inconsistent putting. A strong armed quarterback, may put time in on speeding up his release. By working on the weaknesses, a smart athlete can develop into the complete player and the consummate champion.

We can take the same approach and become strong and faithful followers of Christ. When one becomes a Christian, the new babe in Christ has determined to die to the old man, but the old habits may still have a strong pull on one’s daily living. Realizing the weak spiritual areas, the new Christian will do well to respect these soft points and work on them with the assistance of God’s wisdom. Let us examine God’s wisdom for our recognized weaknesses.

We may have come to Christ after years of participating in social drinking and occasional drunkenness. Yes, one realizes that drunkenness is a work of the

flesh, and a soul damning sin (*Galatians 5:21*). Yes, one has determined to put such activity away with the old man of sin. But drinking alcohol may still be connected with people and places that still bring tempting pleasure.

One needs to respect these feelings and guard his or her mind with God’s wisdom. God wants us focus upon the ending effects of drinking instead of being captivated with its tempting beginnings. *“Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it sparkleth in a the cup, when it goes down smoothly: at last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder”* (*Proverbs 23:31-32*).

Our weakness of turning back to drinking may be connected with going out with our “old drinking buddies”. We need to remember the principle that *“evil companionships corrupt good morals”* (*I Corinthians 15:33*). Recognizing our weaknesses, we may need to develop new godly friendships and refuse the tempting previous ones. Why put yourself in the company of those who may weaken your resolve to soberness?

Strong sexual desires may have tempted us into committing

fornication or adultery. Our conscience is operating on the truth that such sins will keep us from Heaven and our great Lord (*Galatians 5:19*) but, the sexual desires are still strong.

One needs to keep the sexual relationship in the marriage strong. God’s wisdom says *“But because of fornications, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife her due: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.”* (*I Corinthians 7:2-3*). The “due” is giving one’s body sexually to the wife or husband in marriage.

God’s wisdom also tells us to guard our “eyes”. *“I have made a covenant with mine eyes; How then should I look upon a virgin?”* (*Job 31:1*). Aroused by sight, men need to guard the eyes from sexual sins and refuse porn sites and suggestive pornographic pictures. Women may need to stay out of chat rooms where emotional pulls may trap them in sexual temptation. Guard your hearts, thoughts and eyes. Pay attention to your weaknesses.