



Connecting to Colonial's Covenant – 16
November 8, 2015

Pastor Phelps
Titus 2:12

COMMITMENT #16 – NO NON-MEDICAL DRUGS

In 2014, six words were added to the Covenant of Colonial Hills Baptist Church so that it now reads, “We also engage . . . to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage and the non-medical use of drugs.” In a drug-addicted age, Colonial’s members are asked to say, “No.”

The language of this commitment is necessarily specific. Unlike some religions which teach their adherents to avoid modern medicines, Colonial’s Covenant allows for the medical use of prescribed and un-prescribed medicines. Having already considered our position on America’s most popular “legal drug,” let’s consider our over-arching commitment to abstain from the “recreational” use of drugs.

A CULTURAL OBSESSION

In November of 2013, Christianity Today magazine reported that, “The United States is the most medicated county in the world.” The Centers for Disease Control has recently reported that deaths by overdose in America are up _____ % since 1999. Drugabuse.gov reports that _____% of high school students used drugs in a non-medical way in 2014. Six percent of high school seniors smoke marijuana daily and _____% of America’s high school seniors smoked pot in the past thirty days. The Centers for Disease control reports that _____ % of America’s 12 year-olds have been exposed to illicit drugs in the past 12 months.

While Colorado has made marijuana legal and Ohioans refused to legalize pot, other far more addictive substances have become available. Indiana’s battle with substance abuse is well-above national averages leading to an _____ outbreak and an alarming increase of drug-related deaths.

THE BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION

II Peter 1:3 assures us that the Word of God provides the Christian with “all things that pertain unto life and godliness.” There is an answer for every question we ask and every situation we face in the Bible.

BIBLICAL _____ TO CONSIDER.

While the Bible contains no specific reference to marijuana, LSD, cocaine, methamphetamines, spice, heroin, or a host of other mind-altering substances, the Bible contains principles that guide us to say no to the non-medical use of drugs.

1. The Christian is to be _____ - minded (I Peter 1:13; 5:8; Titus 2:6; I Thes. 5:6-8). Walking circumspectly (Eph. 5:15) as we await Christ’s coming will require laser-sharp attention (II Cor. 10:3-5).
2. The Christian is to be _____ by the Spirit (Eph. 5:18). Drugs often decrease moral inhibitions (Prov. 25:28).
3. The Christian’s body is to _____ to God (Rom. 6:19; Rom. 12:1-2; I Cor. 6:19-20).
4. The Christian’s _____ is to be different than the world’s (John 17:15-16; Eph. 4:22-24).
5. The Christian is to obey _____ authorities (Rom. 13:1-7; I Pet. 2:13-17).

BIBLICAL _____ TO CONTEMPLATE.

II Timothy 3:13 warns that, “Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.” One of the “works of the flesh” identified in Galatians 5:20 is “sorcery.” The word translated “sorcery” in Galatians 5 differs from the word translated “sorcery” in Acts 8:11 and 13:6 and 8. The word in Acts is magos from which we get our word, “magic.” The word in Galatians is pharmakeia and the word pharmakeiah has direct links to our word, pharmacy.

1. In the Tribulation, those being judged will not repent of their use of _____ (Rev. 9:21).
2. Those who sell drugs have power to _____ the nations (Rev. 18:23).
3. Drug _____ are listed with those ultimately condemned to the Lake of Fire (Rev. 21:8).
4. Those who are deceived by drugs will never enter into _____ (Rev. 22:15).

Satan is a murderer (John 8:44) and we are not to be ignorant of his devices (II Cor. 2:11). Today, he is drugging the world to damnation.



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