

**The Duty of Man #2**  
**The Pursuit of Pleasure**  
**Galatians 5:19-21 (Ecc 2:1-3)**  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the vanity in the pursuit of worldly pleasures.

- Intro:
1. We experience immense pressure from this world to pursue pleasures in this life.
  2. What kind of pleasures are you pursuing? Pursuing pleasures is not evil, but pursuing the wrong kind of pleasures is sinful.

I. Pleasures & the World

A. Pleasures the world promotes (**Pro 6:23-29**)

1. The world clearly promotes evil. This is being done in numerous different ways. The world is striving to deceive us so that we will serve “various lusts and pleasures” (**Titus 3:3**)
2. Those that live as if all that matters are their selfish and evil pleasures are warned. (**Isa 47:8a**).

B. The cost of worldly pleasures (**Pro 6:32-35, Col 3:5-6**)

1. The Bible warns us of the cost of evil acts (Pro 6:33, **Pro 21:17a**)
2. The “wages of unrighteousness” is what awaits those who seek worldly pleasures (**2 Peter 2:13**). To be referred to as “spots” and “blemishes” is a sign of the stains their sins has given them.

II. Pleasures & the Bible

A. Sexuality and the like (**Eph 5:3-7** a reminder that such things shouldn't “be named” or done among faithful Christians.

1. Sexually sins are always ungodly no matter a person's age or circumstances (**1 Tim 5:5-7**)
2. God keeps us from the evils of sexual sin while lovers of evil encourage such actions (**Pro 6:23-26**).

B. Alcohol (**Pro 21:17b**)

1. Alcohol is a sin that can inflame men and cause evil addictions (**Isa 5:11**).
2. (**Pro 23:29-35**)
  - a. The description (**Pro 23:29-30**) – not a pretty picture, much different from magazines & TV
  - b. Do not be deceived by it (**Pro 29:31-33**) – Sickness, eyes will be deceiving & saying vulgar things.
  - c. End result of such a person (**Pro 29:34-35**) – unknown injuries, forgotten actions & left seeking more.

III. Christian pleasures (**Ecc 2:3-11**)

A. Lovers of God find pleasure in Him (**2 Tim 3:4b**)

1. The love of pleasure has separates man from God. Lovers of God find pleasure in Christian fellowship, church activities and worshipping God in general.

2. We must realize true pleasures are in Christ, in fellowship with His servants, and in the eternal life ahead of the faithful.
- B. Earthly pleasures cannot satisfy (**Ecc 2:9-11**)
  1. Despite the attempts worldly pleasures could not satisfy.
  2. Moses REFUSED the passing pleasures of sin because he knew true pleasures, lasting pleasures are only in God (**Heb 11:24-25**)!
  3. Unlike the pleasures of this worldly, godly pleasures are not “passing” they are eternal.

- Conc:
1. What pleasures are you seeking? Are they righteous pleasures?
  2. If we are seeking “the passing pleasures of sin” (**Heb 11:25b**), we must repent.
  3. “Seek first the Kingdom of God,” and the Christian pleasures will be available to us (**Mt 6:33**).
  4. Full Invitation