

Smoking

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. I Thessalonians 5:21-22

-The worldly things with which tobacco is associated are of themselves enough to send severe warning signals to Christians.

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. I Corinthians 6:19-20

-Our bodies do not belong to us to do with as we please. They belong to God. A Christian must be careful not to abuse their body because it belongs to Christ.

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. I John 2:15-17

-Everything associated with tobacco products sends a message of worldliness. The people and organizations that support them are not pure in any sense of the word.

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. Ephesians 5:11

-Rather than joining in with the world's foul habits, the Christian should be standing against them. A believer cannot be salt and light if he is involved in the same sins as the world.

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. I Corinthians 4:2

-A believer is a steward of everything that God gives him including his body. God expects us to be faithful with all He gives. Smoking is damaging to the body and uses large amounts of money that could be directed to far more important uses.

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. I Corinthians 9:27

-Bad habits can detract us from a pure lifestyle and faultless testimony. This hurts our credibility.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 5:23

-God wants us to safeguard not only our souls, but also our bodies. Smoking hurts the body and only inhibits our service for the Lord.