

SPIRITUAL CHECKLIST CONCERNING SIN

Heb. 5:12-14: “. . . those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Rom. 12:2: “. . . that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

I. HONEST QUESTIONS DEMAND HONEST ANSWERS.

A. Is it condemned in the Bible?

1. Gal. 5:19-21: “Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like: of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”
2. 2 John 9: “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

B. Will it harm me spiritually?

1. Rom. 8:1-17: “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

for what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

For to be carnally minded *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

And if Christ *is* in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors – not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

C. Will it harm me physically?

1. 1 Cor. 6:18-20: “Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

2. Rom. 12:1-2: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

3. 2 Cor. 7:1: "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

D. Will it cause OTHERS to go astray?

1. Rom. 14:1 - 15:3: "Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things."

"For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, 'The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.'"

2. 1 Cor. 8: "Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.

And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know.

But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him.

Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one.

For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords),

yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

However, there is not in everyone that knowledge; for some, with consciousness of the idol, until now eat it as a thing offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.

For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols?

And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?

But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble."

E. Will it take too much of my time and money?

1. Luke 12:16-21: "Then He spoke a parable to them, saying, *"The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully.*

And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?'

So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'

But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

2. Eph. 5:15-16: "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

F. Will it hurt my influence for Christ and the Church?

1. Matt. 5:14-16: “*You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.*

Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

2. 1 Tim. 4:12: “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”

G. Will it hurt my conscience?

1. Rom. 14:21-23: “It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak.

Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.”

H. If Christ were here, would He disapprove?

1. 1 Pet. 2:21: “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.”
2. 1 Cor. 11:1: “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”

I. Will it cause a spot or stain?

1. James 1:27: “Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”
2. Eph. 5:25-27: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”

J. Will it lead into bad company?

1. 1 Cor. 15:33: “Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’”

K. Will I want to HIDE this action?

1. John 3:19: “*And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*”
2. Heb. 4:13: “And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

L. Can I pray about it?

1. Matt. 26:41: “*Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*”
2. 1 Thess. 5:17: “Pray without ceasing.”

M. Will it hinder me in performing my Christian duty?

1. Matt. 6:33: “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*”
2. 2 Tim. 2:4: ““No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.”

N. Will it corrupt my mind, thoughts, and heart?

1. Prov. 4:23; 23:7: “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”

“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. ‘Eat and drink!’ he says to you, but his heart is not with you.”
2. Matt. 15:19: “*For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.*”

3. Phil. 4:8: “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.”

THE BIBLE SPEAKS TO US: By Command, Principle, or an Example.

It is meant to govern our thoughts, speech, and actions.

We just need to check off our decisions by the STANDARD - God's Word.