

Do You Not Know?

The apostle Paul asked this question six times in the sixth chapter of the first letter to the Corinthians. It seems strange that Paul would ask this question so many times in such a short time. Surely, Paul did not think they were that ignorant of God's word. After all, they were Christians. Christians read the Bible, listen to sermons, and some even tell others what God expects the behavior of people should be. Four times the question, "Do you not know?" has to do with the sin problem. In other words, "Are you not aware that this and that type of behavior is not approved by God?" Does it seem strange to you that Paul would have to dealing with Christians on these matters? It is not strange when you consider the behavior of some Christians today.

"Do you not know that immodesty is a sin?" The Bible calls it lasciviousness or lewdness in Galatians 5:19, 2 Cor. 12:21. The meaning of "Lasciviousness" or "lewd" behavior, is shameless conduct, or "tending to excite lustful desires" and includes the manner in which one dresses or the language one uses. The consequences are dire, "...those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:21).

Do you not know that drunkenness is a sin? Do you know what causes drunkenness? Consumption of beverage alcohol and other drugs. The attempt to justify drinking by so-called Christians is weak and without merit. There is no doubt that drunkenness is a sin. The Bible says, "Envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and such like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in times past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:21). Murder is a sin, but what if I just beat people to within an "inch of their life"? Would that be acceptable behavior? That is what the "drinker" would have us to believe. Drunkenness can be measured in degrees. In the State of GA, a person operating a motor vehicle with a BAC (blood alcohol content) level of .08 is considered "drunk". Intelligent thought concludes that there is some degree of drunkenness with any level of alcohol in the blood according to the AMA one drink causes a feeling of relaxation. I don't know why Christians want to jeopardize their salvation by flirting with the sin of drunkenness.

-Bill Dedmon
