

Why Seek Ye The Living Among The Dead

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Romans 1:25, "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."

So many people spend their years here on earth in the useless pursuit of pleasure. When the years come to an end, what is there to show for their lives? Some say that they look for the meaning of life, never listening to the words of the God who created the earth and man. Alcohol and the use of drugs ruin many a life and family, and for what? A short time of losing control, reason, inhibitions, morals, and often ending with accidents and death. Life is not in these things, but is of the flesh and leads to destruction. When a person sobers up he faces more problems in this life, not to mention that he is drifting farther from God and life.

It is sad to see so many broken homes, broken hearts, and shattered lives and dreams of people who have been given to drugs and alcohol. Many of the thefts that take place are done for the money to buy drugs. People get desperate and will do almost anything to obtain them. There are parents who have

gone broke trying to keep a child out of jail. All these abuses of the body and the life that God has given is spurred on by Satan. He works against God by doing his best to destroy God's creation.

Life and purpose are not enhanced by chemicals, but rather are degraded. I have listened to former drug users tell of how they lived while under the influence of the drugs and what they would do to get them. Some times health was ruined, memory was damaged by some, and in many ways the people regretted that they had ever been weak enough to be taken in by the promise of a good time. The bible says in **1 Corinthians 6:9-10**, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

How many people are in jail or prison because they thought that they could have "fun" and wound up killing someone in a wreck, or by violence. Misuse of drugs don't make you better, they make fools out of otherwise sensible people. I have had some relatives who were given to alcohol and none could say that it made them better people.

Others seek for sex among the dead things of this

world. Look at the newspaper and notice how many divorces there are. Some are because of adultery by one or both people in the marriage. In **1 Corinthians 6:12** the scripture says, "Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body." People may slip around and think that they are getting away with their sins, but the Lord knows what we do. He even knows when a person doesn't actually commit adultery but would like to too. **Matthew 5:27-28**, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." God knows us, inside and out, and never let anyone think that they can hide anything from the Lord.

Yes, when anyone looks for meaning, pleasure, and life in the things of this world it is the same as looking for the living among the dead. **Hebrews 12:1-2**, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

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SHE WON HER ARGUMENT WITH JESUS!

NOT MANY PEOPLE IN JESUS' DAY EVER ARGUED WITH THE MASTER AND WON! THE SCRIBES AND THE PHARISEES TRIED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, WITH TRICKY POINTS OF LAW, BUT JESUS ALWAYS HAD THE ANSWER TO PUT THEM TO SHAME! HOWEVER, ONE WOMAN, NOT EVEN A JEW, BUT OF SYRIAN BIRTH, DID WHAT SEEMED THE IMPOSSIBLE—SHE WON OVER JESUS' OWN LOGIC....



...JESUS ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT HIS MISSION WAS TO PREACH TO THE JEWS AND NO ONE ELSE AND, WHILE RESTING NEAR THE CITY OF TYRE, HE WAS APPROACHED BY THE WOMAN WHO, MOVED WITH CONCERN FOR HER SICK DAUGHTER, PLEADED FOR JESUS' HEALING — JESUS' ANSWER WAS IN ACCORD WITH HIS LOGIC....

... SPEAKING, AS WAS HIS WONT, IN PARABLE, HE INFORMED HER IT WAS HARDLY RIGHT TO TAKE THE "FOOD" (HIS HEALING) THAT WAS MEANT FOR THE "CHILDREN" (THE JEWS) AND CAST IT TO THE "DOGS" (GENTILES)... BUT THE WOMAN ANSWERED WITH SOME LOGIC OF HER OWN, "TRUTH, LORD, YET THE DOGS EAT OF THE CRUMBS WHICH FALL FROM THEIR MASTER'S TABLE." SO IMPRESSED WAS JESUS WITH THE WOMAN'S SINCERITY AND FAITH THAT HE COMMENDED HER AND TOLD HER THE DAUGHTER WOULD BE HEALED INSTANTLY! (MATT 15:27, MARK 7:28)

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