

Bible Temperance – BT

1BT – 1 Corinthians 10:31. Christians are commanded to eat and drink as will please God. The only way we can eat and drink that will be pleasing to God is to be governed in our eating and drinking by the principles laid down in the Word of God. A Christian is to be governed in his eating and drinking by the principles of the Bible, and not merely by appetite or taste.

2BT – Isaiah 55:2. God has commanded us to eat only that which is good, and we learn what is truly good to eat by the teachings of His Word.

3BT – Genesis 1:29,31. The God who made man knows what is best for man to eat, and the original diet which God ordained for man was fruits, grains, vegetables, and nuts. God did not permit man to eat the flesh of animals until the time of the flood. To Israel in the wilderness He made it very plain that man is not to eat the flesh of any unclean animal, fowl, or fish.

4BT – Deuteronomy 14:7,8. God told His people not to eat the flesh of swine.

5BT – Deuteronomy 14:9,10. Creatures in the waters which do not have fins and scales are not to be eaten. God's people should not eat catfish, eels, crabs, lobsters, oysters, or clams. This instruction cannot be set aside by Christians today on the ground that it is in the Mosaic Law, which has passed away. This prohibition against eating unclean creatures was in force centuries before the Mosaic Law was given (read Gen. 7:2), and this uncleanness is still recognized in the last book of the Bible, long after the ceremonial law had passed away at the cross. (Read Rev. 18:2.)

6BT – Isaiah 66:15-17. When the Lord Jesus comes, those who are found eating swine's flesh will be consumed by the fire of His presence, along with those who eat mice. God is love: He never deprives us of anything that is for our good. So when He tells us not to eat unclean creatures, it is for our good to obey.

7BT – Deuteronomy 14:2,3. God's people are to be a holy and pure people: they are not to eat any unclean or abominable thing, Lev. 20:25,26; 1 Peter 2:9.

8BT – Proverbs 23:29-32. There is plain instruction in the Bible against the use of alcoholic liquors, 1 Cor. 6:9,10. This means that when we drink as will please God, we will not drink beer, wine, whisky, gin, or any alcoholic liquor. Coffee contains a poison known as caffeine, which is injurious to the body. Cola drinks also contain injurious poisons or dope. Tobacco, snuff, and cigars contain a deadly poison known as furfural. When we really eat and drink as is pleasing to God, and as the Holy Scriptures commands us, we will put aside tea, coffee, cola drinks, and tobacco, or any narcotic habit, such as the morphine habit, paregoric or opium habits, etc.

9BT – 1 Corinthians 6:19,20. Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, and therefore it is to be kept clean from these harmful things so that it will be a fit place for the indwelling of Jesus by His Holy Spirit, 2 Cor. 6:17,18; 7:1.

10BT – 1 Corinthians 3:17. If we defile the body temple with these unclean and harmful things, God will destroy us. True Christian temperance is a total abstinence from all that is harmful, and a moderate use of that which is good.

11BT – 1 John 3:2,3. If we really have the true hope in Christ of being made like Him when He comes, we will purify ourselves now, even as Jesus is pure. Jesus never ate pork or any unclean creature. He would not use tobacco, tea, coffee, Coca-Cola, opium, morphine, etc. And if we purify ourselves as He is pure, we will leave off all these things. This is a part of the process of getting ready to meet Jesus at His coming. God will bless you in this.