#### **Are You Sure That You Want to Do That?** Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

2 Timothy 2:24-26, "And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.'

I am saddened to see people hurt themselves, but we see it time and time again. Just like the scripture says, they oppose themselves in life. Everything from denying God, to living a sinful life. It all brings about a tragic end if a person doesn't wake up and come to the Lord. Each life is precious and can be so much more if that person lives for the Lord. We are given a life and an amount of time here on earth and when that time is over what will we have to show for it? One of the terrible things that is destroying lives is the misuse

of drugs. A person may say that it is his life and he hurts no one but himself. That is a lie, plain and simple. First of all, it hurts not only the user, but the family and friends, true friends. I say true friends because those who would help a person in the use of drugs is no friend. Much of the crime is done due to drugs and those who use them; stealing and robbing to obtain them. Then there are people who OD on them and give their family another terrible hurt. How many moms and dads have spent their living trying to get a son or daughter off of drugs?

Remember that the devil is a deceiver and makes people feel, and think, that they are doing well for themselves while they are indeed destroying their lives. Many parents and grandparents suffer because they have to try to take care of the neglected children of those high on drugs. On top of this, how many hurt financially trying to get a son, or daughter, out of jail. Hurting no one but yourself? Don't be too sure of that.

A person's life is not given by the Lord to spend sinning and living high on drugs, or any other sin for that matter. We are here to walk with God and to help our fellow man. **Ecclesiastes** 

12:13-14, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." Whether a man believes it or not, he will stand and give account to God when this life is over. Romans 14:11-12, "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." I think that people drink and use drugs to temporarily escape the pressures of life. What they don't know is that God will help them in this life, but if they die unsaved and in sin, there is no one to help and certainly there is no escape from hell. Jesus is our only way to life eternal and is our help in this life.

So if a person continues to live for sin and the pleasures of the flesh he will give account to the Lord and face an eternity without God. A life lived without God here means an endless eternity apart from the God who loved you. Spending your time and years for the things of this world and leaving God out of your life means that you face the judgment lost - are you sure that you want to do that?

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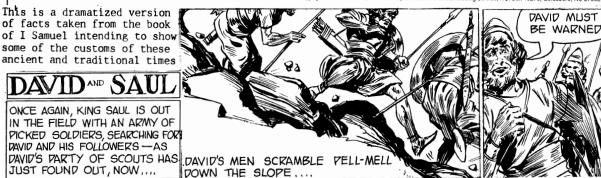
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**Established** September 12, 1999