

## HAZARDS WE SHOULD AVOID

*Luke. 2:10*

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. (NIV)*

### Questions:

- What is the reason why many people fall into depression in this time of year?
- What do you believe are some Hazards we should avoid?
- How can we avoid to fall into the Melancholy trap, spending and other hazards?

**Introduction:** *The holiday season is a time to enjoy, but unfortunately there are many people who are sad and do not enjoy the holidays. Here are four hazards avoid in order to enjoy the festive times without being cause of sorrow but of joy and peace.*

### 1. **THE DESTRUCTIVE MELANCHOLY. (Luke. 2:10)**

- *Although it is not known exactly when Jesus was born the world celebrates this birth in December. When the announcement was made that Jesus was born it was given as news of great joy for the blessing had come to earth.*
- *There are people who in this time are easily betrayed by their emotions. They get out of control emotionally and fall into sadness, depression, some even sleep more, some eat more, some overwork in order to cover the memories that these dates bring..*
- *As Christians we should focus on why we celebrate Christmas, for us it should be a time to reflect on what Christ has done in our lives and how He was and is the true gift of Christmas, since he came to the world to offer himself to save humanity.*

### 2. **PLACES AND CELEBRATIONS THAT ONLY DESTROY (Prov. 23.29-32)**

*29 Who has anguish? Who has sorrow? Who is always fighting? Who is always complaining? Who has unnecessary bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes. 30 It is the one who spends long hours in the taverns, 30 trying out new drinks. 31 Don't gaze at the wine, seeing how red it is, how it sparkles in the cup, how smoothly it goes down. 2 For in the end it bites like a poisonous snake; it stings like a viper.*

- *As children of God we should avoid all kinds of parties where alcohol or drugs serve as opportunities only serve to trigger fights and often end tragically.*
- *We must avoid negative Meetings with friends or family, no visionary, depressed, unless we can be of influence for them but if they are the ones that are going to influence its best avoid attending. (2nd. Corinthians 6.14-15)*

### 3. **THE DESTRUCTIVE EXPENSES. (1st Timothy 6:8)**

- *Many people are sad because they wish to have a gift to give to each friend or family member but the truth is that we should not spend what we do not even give what we dont have nor let ourselves be taken by the pressure from merchants.*
- *Avoid using credit cards and debts. Celebrate with what you have. There are people who in to this date have not finished paying off debts acquired for Christmas one or two years ago. (Proverbs 22.26-27)*
- ***We should not spend our priorities.*** *When Jesus was born the wise men brought him gifts, we must not take what belongs to God to spend on other things. We must continue to honor God with our tithes and offerings.*

#### ***4. THE DESTRUCTIVE MEMORIES (Philippians 4.8)***

- *At this time people can fall into the trap of recall some failures of their life: Betrayals, injustices, Divorce, Family jailed, loss of a job, death of a loved one.*
- *Jesus came to this world as God's gift to humanity that changed circumstances and the lifetime of all those who believed in Him should not reminisce if Jesus and healed him. (Philippians 3.13-14)*

***Conclusion:*** *The best way to celebrate this time of year is to let Jesus be born in our hearts invite Him to be part of our celebration, this is an excellent time to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior and He will give us the gift of salvation.*

#### **Announcements:**

- 3 Days of power 13-15 of December.
- theatrical production“Christmas Is More”
  - Friday 19 December 7 p.m.
  - Saturday 20 December 7 p.m.
  - Sunday 21 December 11:00 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- Happy Birthday Jesús: The kids will be celebrating Jesus on Sunday 21 of December.