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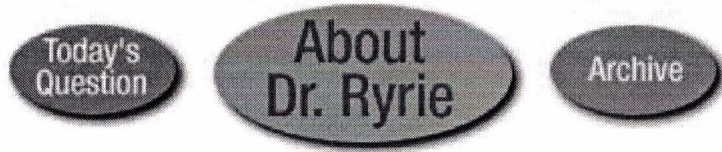
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Thursday, January 8, 1998

Subject: Is smoking wrong?

Dear Dr. Ryrie: In your opinion, is smoking wrong? I don't recall it ever being mentioned in the Bible, but I do know that the Bible says that our bodies are temples. My friend, who is a Christian, says that it's OK to smoke, even if you're not of age. What does God think? --Megan P.

Dear Megan: True, the Bible does not specifically mention smoking. Nor does it mention the abuse of watching too much TV. Nor a lot of other activities we can be involved in. But, as you have pointed out, the Bible exhorts us to glorify God in our bodies (1 Cor. 6:20). Smoking has been proved to be harmful to our bodies, so how can one smoke and glorify God in his or her body? Furthermore, even if smoking is OK, Paul reminds us not to be brought under the power of any habit (1 Cor. 6:12). If a smoker says to you, "It's not a habit; I can quit any time I want," then you reply, "Prove it by quitting!"



Got a Question? -- Ask it

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