

1Ti 4:7-8 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; (8) for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

When God tells us something is sinful, it is for our good, both in this life and the life to come!

God warns us against the sins of the flesh.

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, (20) idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, (21) envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God

This passage is broken down into 3 sections:

sins of the flesh of a sexual nature:

immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry,

sins of the flesh of a drug nature:

sorcery, drunkenness, carousing (having wild parties -- ERV), and things like these

sins of relationship: strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying

sins of the flesh of a sexual nature:

I include idolatry in this section based on Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. (25) For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ...

(26) For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, (27) and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

The Centers for Disease Control reported 555,608 cases of gonorrhea (up 20% from 2016; up 67% since 2013), 30,644 cases of syphilis (up 10%) and 1.7 million cases of chlamydia (compared to 2016's 1.6 million). Nearly half of all chlamydia cases were reported in 15- to 24-year-old females.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0926-std-prevention.html>  
<https://www.popsci.com/sexually-transmitted-disease-increase>

"We can't address STI epidemics by pretending they are simply a matter of individual choice,"

But that's what they are – sinful choices.

1Ti 4:4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

sins of the flesh of a drug nature:

sorcery, drunkenness, carousing (having wild parties -- ERV), and things like these

sorcery (NAS) is witchcraft (KJV) from the Gr *pharmakeia* from which we get pharmacy

North American Shamans just like Roman and Greek “seers” or “diviners” used hallucinogenic drugs to foretell the future.

## Headlines:

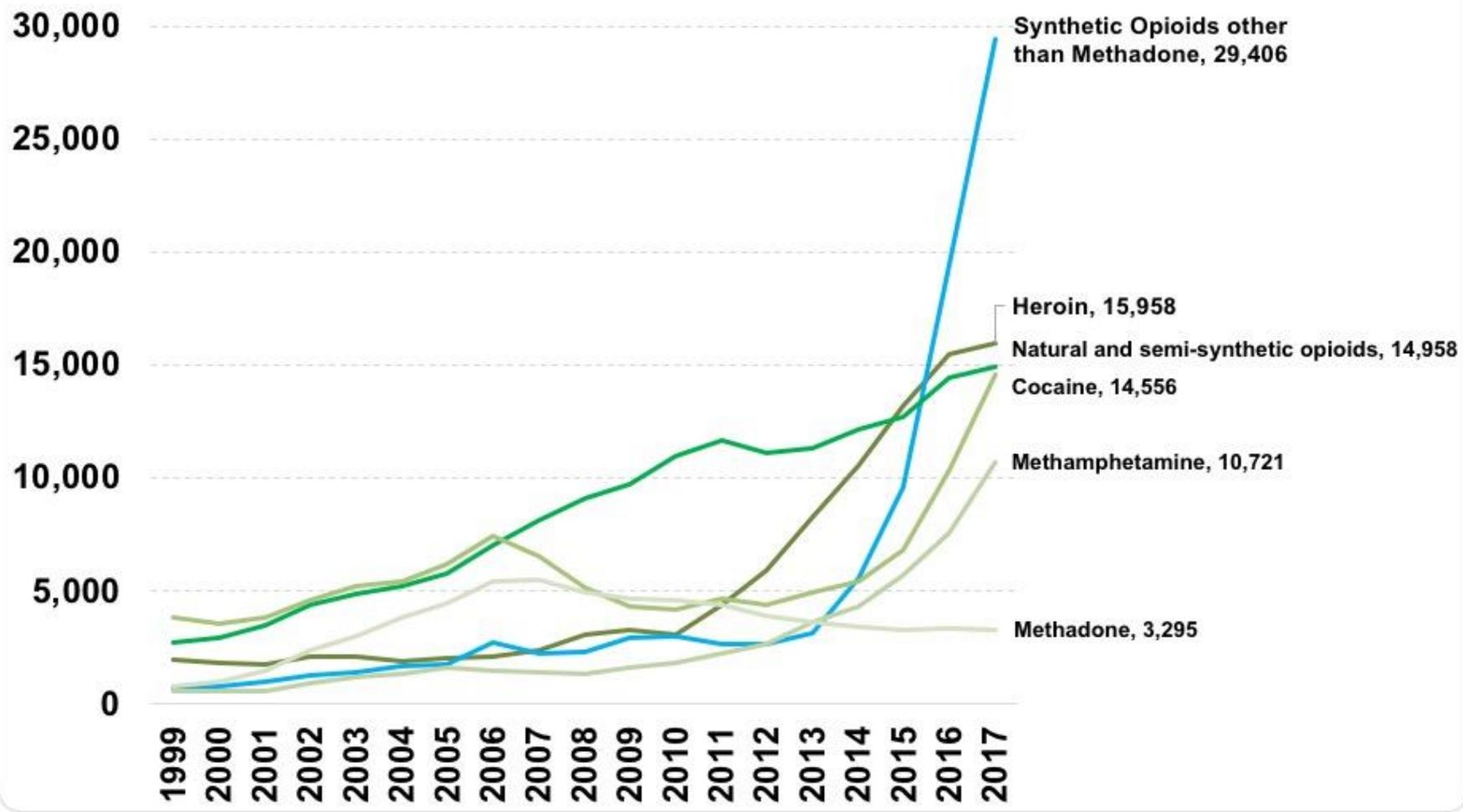
Drug overdose deaths top 70,000, drive down U.S. life expectancy. Suicide rates rose by 3.7 percent. The two causes of untimely death lowered U.S. life expectancy for the second year in a row. - NBC

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/americas-heroin-epidemic/drug-overdose-deaths-top-70-000-drive-down-u-s-n941476>

‘The Numbers Are So Staggering.’  
Overdose Deaths Set a Record Last Year. – NYT

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/11/29/upshot/fentanyl-drug-overdose-deaths.html>

# Drugs Involved in U.S. Overdose Deaths, 1999 to 2017



<https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>

Synthetic opioid deaths up 10 fold since 2013

What are synthetic opioids? Drugs such as fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, and tramadol

Sold as a standalone product, as a low-cost additive to increase the potency of heroin and even as counterfeit medicines

It is commonly used to adulterate heroin as well as counterfeit prescription pain pills and sedatives that are purchased on the street. Increasing numbers of overdose deaths among cocaine users may also be related to fentanyl-adulterated cocaine

“Our young people have been taught that marijuana is not a dangerous drug and while it is not as bad as heavy alcohol use, it is not without its problems.”

“Roughly 10 percent of people who use marijuana will become dependent on it, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.”

“Long-term use of marijuana has been found to decrease the volume of grey matter in the brain, while a longitudinal study in New Zealand found that teens who started and continued using the drug regularly lost an average of 8 IQ points by mid-adulthood.”

<https://www.summitbehavioralhealth.com/blog/top-10-addictive-illegal-drugs/>

1Co 15:32-34 What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” (33) Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” (34) Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

Since the legalization of recreational marijuana in Colorado:

- Colorado now has the highest rate of deaths by overdose of all states in the U.S.
- Colorado is the Only State with Heavy Use of marijuana, alcohol, cocaine, opioids
- Colorado spends nearly 15% of the state's budget on addiction treatment and prevention programs.
- Between 2013 and 2018, fatal car crashes involving pot increased by more than 150%.

<https://www.aspenridgenorth.com/blog/21-colorado-addiction-facts-may-surprise/>

Annually, over 20% of Colorado residents will use illicit drugs. This is higher than anywhere else and equates to over half a million people abusing drugs.

In 2016, the Rocky Mountain HIDTA Task Force has seized more than 7 tons (almost 45,000 plants!) of illegal pot. The United States Postal Service turns over 387% more illegal packages than they did 5 years ago.

<https://www.aspenridgenorth.com/blog/21-colorado-addiction-facts-may-surprise/>

# Overdoses Kill More Residents Than Car Accidents Do

half of marijuana users said they had gotten behind the wheel of a vehicle in the last 30 days within two hours of using the drug.

recent high school graduates were less resistant to the notion of riding in a vehicle driven by someone high on weed (23 percent of respondents said they had done so at least once) versus an alcohol-impaired driver (20 percent).

The question for most young people is, “How badly will my parents react to this if I’m caught?”

Eph 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Heb 12:7-8 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? (8) But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Two people involved – fathers who don't care and sons who will reject discipline.

Mat 19:14 but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”

It's easy to love them when they're small, but as they grow they're influenced by the world.

If we don't teach them, the world will.

Mar 10:13-16 And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. (14) But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. (15) Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” (16) And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Mat 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."