

Six Major Mental Dispositions of Addiction

1. Who hath woe? Covetous/Selfish Spirit — Prov. 23. 29

- A. Those with continual desires, lusts, wishes and discontentments that cause one to long, crave, cry or beg after (Isaiah 5:11-12)
 - Improper/deceitful submission and willingness to obey
 - Deceitful humility in order to get what one is after (Isaiah 5:22-24)
- B. Those with a strong desire or drive to escape punishment
 - Insensitive to responsibility, rash, reckless and impetuous
 - Fear of suffering and consequences
 - Uncontrolled, undirected effort in life because of a captivating focus and being fearful and selfish
 - Unpredictable emotional expression (unable to understand judgment—Prov. 28:4)
 - Defrauding emotional expression (manipulating to obtain)

2. Who hath sorrow? Sorrowful/Needy/Willing Spirit — Prov.23:29

- A. A sorrowful spirit produced by loss or disappointments
- B. A needy spirit produced by loss or disappointments
- C. A willing spirit produced by loss or disappointments
 - Followed by a period of mental suffering because of the repeated cycle of loss and disappointments
 - Encountered with a mental battle between two directions of thought
- D. Those with a constant state of desire
- E. Those with a constant state of need
- F. Those with no discernment before decisions
- G. Those with physical illnesses, mourning and afflictions
- H. Those with an unrestrained willingness in particular areas
- I. Those with an unresolved state of bitterness, sadness and regret

3. Who hath contentions? Argumentative/Stubborn Spirit – Prov. 23:29

- A. Those who cause controversy or respond to controversial arguments
- B. Those who are incompatible in relationships
- C. Those who experience intolerable hardships/struggles in relationships
 - Causing pressure
 - Running from pressure
- D. Those who fall out of agreement or harmony easily
- E. Those who resist change in beliefs, course, manners or purpose
- F. Those who sow conflict between people of other relationships

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4. Who hath babblings? Complaining/Unfaithful Spirit — Prov. 23:29

- A. Those that meditate or remember past offenses, hurts, irritations, insults, disappointments, broken promises, etc.
- B. Those that continue complaining and have confusion
- C. Those that talk unwisely or too much and reveal secrets
- D. Those that indulge in foolish or meaningless conversations

5. Who hath wounds? Evil Spirit — Prov. 23:29

- A. Those that self-inflict injuries physically, mentally and spiritually
- B. Those that damage one's own reputation honor, respect, etc.
- C. Those that damage one's own conflicts, afflictions, troubles, suffering, etc.
- D. Those that receive no benefit from the damages experienced from self or others

6. Who hath redness of eyes? Changeable Spirit (Prideful & Bitter) – Prov. 23:29

- A. Those that change in appearance
- B. Those that change in opinion of oneself, others, friends or life
- C. Those that change in weaknesses
- D. Those that change in the way of irritations, insults or false accusations
- E. Those that change in the causes of displeasure and disappointments
- F. Those that change in willingness to bow down or submit, substitute, exchange; become different, pass from one phase to another, accept variety in a chosen course of life
- G. Those that change in thinking

Six mental dispositions are developed or possessed by:

Those who tarry long at the wine and seek mixed wine - Prov. 23:30

- Continue for a long period of time consuming a drink or the in taking of an intoxicant
- Sit up late
- Consume secretly
- Go in search of a mixture that intoxicates to a great extent (progressive intoxication)

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WARNING! Avoid consideration of a mixture that produces intoxication - Prov. 23:24

- Do not consider an intoxicating mixture with any degree of respect, approval or joyful expectation.
- Do not advise self-concerning personal involvement (contemplations).
- Avoid becoming acquainted with or gaining an understanding of the mixture that intoxicates.

Never consider an intoxicating mixture as a source of gain/relief (Prov.23:31), especially when it is:

1. Red
 - A. Pleasant to the sight
 - B. Blended with echoic elements
 - C. Flows with excitement and exhilaration (giving of energy)
 - D. Glows with abundance, passion and temperament
2. Giveth his color in the cup
 - A. Displays his sparkling eyes in the potion
 - B. Displays his lively presence in an allotted position
3. When it moveth itself aright
 - A. Exercises itself in pleasantness, prosperity, and peacefulness
 - B. Seeks a convert by smooth friendly acceptance or agreement

As a result, intoxicating mixture: Prov. 23:32a

- A. It biteth like a serpent
 1. Strikes with unexpected piercing, pains, wounds, physically and emotionally, which cause suffering of the mind

Note: Remember, alcohol and drug use are coverings and escapism from reality, so a person in this condition has many emotional scars.

2. Strikes with a force that causes sudden emotional stimulation
3. Strikes with a driving force of hatred and disapproval
4. Produces a quiet inward reasoning that carries a powerful influence that seems irresistible, which completely wins over one's affections

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5. Wounds by causing one to become a predictor or foreteller and by this mental disposition, reveals itself as a deceitful, untrustworthy betrayer

B. And stingeth like an adder (verse 32b)

1. Pierces through with a driving force of separation
2. Asks the question—"What was the issue of the heart or need in life at the time one was tempted to become involved in the participation with an intoxicating substance?"

Thine eyes shall behold strange women — Prov. 23:33a

- A. Favor, respect and acceptance shall consider, approve, and become acquainted with unfaithful people
- B. Pleasures not restricted by law or vows

Thine heart shall utter perverse things — Prov. 23:33b

- A. Words of deceit from the desires of the soul (the mind, will and emotions with its affections and natural inclinations) causing others to be overthrown and convert to unfaithfulness
- B. Convert by defrauding or stirring up sensual desire in another person

Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea — Prov. 23:34a

- A. Being brought low (humbled) in the midst of the multitude
- B. Being without awareness in the midst of the roar/commotion
 - Robbed of strength
 - Forced into submission
 - Intense confusion
 - Intense uncertainty

Or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast — Prov. 23:34

- A. To be like those that are bound to wrong commitments
- B. To be like those that are in the foremost of perversions
- C. To be like those that are at the forefront of a painful, destructive, offensive and spoiling force

Note: This is being driven in life by a force working through one's way of thinking and one's desires, which seems to have total destruction as its destiny.

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They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick — Prov. 23:35a

- A. “They”– Spirits that work through the alcohol or drugs or the spirits that work through other people as a result of being used as instruments in God’s hand upon those that turn to intoxicating mixtures for any reason
- B. Spirits that wound, afflict or affect in a disagreeable, painful or overwhelming way but not weakened or grieved by it

Note: The acknowledgement of being weak to drugs and alcohol and the admission that one is under a life of affliction will come much later in life, in most cases.

They have beaten me and I felt it not — Prov. 23:35b

- A. Overpowered
- B. Conquered
- C. Overruled
- D. Not aware of being brought into a position of submission to its influence

When shall I awake? I shall seek it yet again — Prov.23:35

- A. Question how long until risen from the oppressive situation
- B. Desire and determination to experience the pleasure of intoxicating, mind-altering mixtures (Deuteronomy 29:19; Isaiah 56:12)