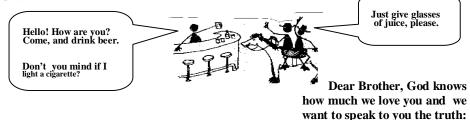
Victory with Jesus

"Therefore I urge you, brothers in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2)



1. <u>Cigars, cigarette and alcohol cause you to sin</u>: You know that the Lord Jesus Christ came down from heaven. He is God but He became man to free us from sin and suffering. Satan, "the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy:" But Jesus "had come that we may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10) Jesus suffered and died on the cross for our sins and He rose again from the grave to give us eternal life and new life abundantly. Through the Lord Jesus our bodies became the temple of God. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." (I Corinthians 6: 19-20)

By cigar and drinking alcoholic beverages, you are harming yourself and harming the people around you. You are spending and wasting your money for harmful things. People around you are suffering from what you are doing. Your smoking is affecting those living with you. You are avoiding your family, wife and children from enjoying to breathe fresh air. Every five cigars you smoke have the effect of one cigar to the man beside you. Researchers found that death rate increase 10% to those people who live in houses of smokers. Instead of every morning you wake up to praise and give thanks to God, you ask for your cigar. You are drowsy because of what you drank; your smell is not good and you cough to bring out virus and phlegm from your lungs. You become aggressive and speak rudely to your wife, children and neighbours causing you to fight and to steal and to kill.

The Lord God had given us healthy bodies and perfect tissues and organs but why do you spoil it with cigars and alcohol, and allow the devils to use it to please Satan? "Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer your selves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness." (Romans 6:13)

2. <u>Cigars, cigarette and Alcohol become your master and god</u>: You will become slave to these harmful things if you allow them to control and rule over your taste and attitude. Cigar and alcohol are idols. If you are fully occupied by these things you already find pleasure in them instead of placing your delight in the Lord. Subsequently, is your body the temple of God or the temple of the devil? "What agreement is there between the

temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people. Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord almighty." (2 Corinthians 6:16-18)

3. <u>Cigars and Alcohol are honest deceivers</u>: These things offer fake and momentary solution to circumstances and they honestly speak for themselves:

A. <u>I am the alcohol</u>: I can cause you loss of your control; I will make you drowsy, disoriented and confused. I will let you susceptible to accidents, loss your prestige, social position, and loss of people's respect to you. I harm your liver and your brain and the nerves of your body.

B. <u>I am the cigarette</u>: My way is the high way for destruction. While you are burning me, I am burning you. 40 cigarettes per day is enough to cause you cancer in your lips, mouth, throat and lung. I cause you frequent inflammation in your lungs, affecting your heart with angina, infarction, narrowing of your blood vessels, ulcers in your stomach and other diseases in addition to early death.

My dear and beloved: I will not add to your burdens. All I desire is for you to realize that you are sick. You need a doctor, you need to be cleansed and be healed. You are suffering from the early stage of death. You need Jesus, the Greatest Doctor and the Giver of Life.

1. *Have you ever known Jesus*? Have you experienced his real love to you? He died on the cross and rose from death to give you hope of eternal and abundant living.

2. Do you know that the Lord Jesus have the power and authority over everything? "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has given to me." (Matthew 28:18) The Bible declares that Jesus healed the leprous, opened the eyes of the blind, made the mute and deaf to speak, drove out demons, and raised the dead to life. Jesus Christ who did all these things is the same yesterday, and today and forever. (Hebrew 13:8) He who is loving and faithful Lord and God, do you think He will not deliver you from cigar and drinking if you come back to Him and trust His name?

3. Have you responded to Jesus' call to you? "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) Have you asked the Lord Jesus with full confidence to free you? Ask Him now to touch you and to heal you.

4. *Have you ever asked the Lord to give you the self-control and perseverance*? These are the fruit of the Holy Spirit to help you to stand firm and to persevere for new life. He gives you self-control to refrain from drinking and smoking. Your part is to decide and act now. Invite the Holy Spirit to strengthen you with self-control and perseverance.

5. If you feel yourself weak, ask a brother whom you trust and whose faith in the Lord is strong. Open your heart to a brother so he will advise you and pray for you. Ask also the church and the believers to pray for you that the Lord will give you the grace and the power to be set free from sin and death.

My dear and beloved: Be of good courage, rise up, sing and praise God. You can do everything through Christ who gives you strength. Be confident that by HIM you can overcome. "Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of Jesus. Deliver me Lord from my sin. I kneel down before you Lord, please cleanse me from evil deed. Wash me by your blood, give me self-control to overcome my bad habits. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to be good example for others. In Jesus' name I give thanks, Amen!"