

# Contents

---

<b>PREFACE to the 2008 edition of <i>The Nature and Uses of Lotteries</i> .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>THE NATURE AND USES OF LOTTERIES – Gataker’s text: .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION to the first edition .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>An Advertisement to the reader concerning this second edition</b>	
<b>CHAPTER 1: What a lottery is, and on lotteries in general .....</b>	<b>7</b>
1. Lotteries: Used and often abused throughout the ages .....	7
2. The origin and form of lotteries .....	7
3. A warning against the false uses of lotteries .....	9
4. A lottery can be merely casual or use chance deliberately .....	10
<b>CHAPTER 2: Chance and random events .....</b>	<b>13</b>
1. Chance: An acceptable term? .....	13
2. The nature of the thing called chance .....	14
3. Two distinct types of chance events: Acts of man and Acts of God Four conclusions about the operation of chance	16
4. Do not confuse acts of God and acts of men .....	19
5. Being a chance event does not make it part of God’s providence .	21
6. What may be chance to one may not be chance to another .....	25
7. God cannot play dice .....	27
<b>CHAPTER 3: The several sorts of lotteries .....</b>	<b>29</b>
1. Those that describe types of lotteries under <i>two</i> heads: .....	29
2. Those that describe types of lotteries under <i>three</i> heads: .....	30
3. Those that describe types of lotteries under <i>four or more</i> heads:	31
4. My choice: Ordinary, both Serious and Gambling, and Extraordinary .....	31
<b>CHAPTER 4: Ordinary lotteries for serious uses .....</b>	<b>33</b>
1. ‘Ordinary’ lotteries .....	33
2. Distributing sacred offices and duties by lottery .....	34
3. Distribution of civil offices in the Bible .....	36
4. Distribution of offices: The Greeks .....	37
5. Distribution of offices: The Romans .....	40
6. Distribution of offices: Italy today .....	44
7. Lottery for sharing various tasks .....	45
8. Distributing land by lottery: An example from scripture .....	47
9. Distributing goods and chattels: Biblical example .....	50
10. Various profane uses of ordinary yet serious lotteries .....	52

11. Punishment by lottery .....	54
12. Lottery as a figure of speech .....	56
Appendix: Does the use of lottery <i>always</i> imply divine intervention?	57

#### **CHAPTER 5: The lawfulness of ordinary lotteries and precautions in their use ..... 61**

1. False arguments in favour of the use of ordinary lotteries .....	61
2. Good reasons for using ordinary lotteries for serious purposes .....	62
3. Eight irrelevant precautions when using lottery .....	63
4. What is meant when the matter of a lottery is ‘indifferent’? .....	65
5. Use choice not a lottery when something is known .....	67
6. Convenience and expediency .....	69
7. Sin and expediency .....	72
8. The manner of using a lottery .....	74
9. No advice from God in ordinary lotteries .....	74
10. Conclusion .....	75

#### **CHAPTER 6: Ordinary lotteries used in gambling and their lawfulness ... 77**

1. Deciding the starting order of games and revelry .....	77
2. Games of chance .....	78
3. Are such games unbecoming to Christians? .....	80
Reasons why lotteries are not evil in themselves:	
4. First: If sanctioned for use in civil affairs, why not gambling also:	82
5. Second: Only used for less weighty matters: .....	83
6. Third: Indifference in the outcome: .....	83
7. Fourth: No lottery is either holy or profane: .....	84
8. Fifth: Nothing un-natural is being used .....	85
9. Sixth: Innocent games also involve chance: .....	86
10. Seventh: A lottery is an indifferent thing: .....	86
11. Eighth: No specific ban or approval for them: .....	87
12. Conclusion .....	88

#### **CHAPTER 7: Answers to the principal objections made against gambling.91**

1. Classification of arguments .....	91
2. First objection: A lottery comes from divine providence .....	91
3. The real meaning of Proverb 16:33 .....	93
4. Estey’s error: God’s immediate providence in every lottery .....	94
5. Balmford’s blunder 1: Gambling as an abusing of God’s name ...	96
6. Balmford’s blunder 2: Lotteries tempt God to produce special work .	97
7. Fenner’s folly 1: A lottery is God’s sentence .....	100
8. Fenner’s folly 2: Lotteries were once God’s oracles .....	101
9. Fenner’s folly 3: Lottery outcomes are binding .....	103
10. Were heathen lotteries religious? .....	104
11. The proper use of lotteries .....	105
12. Worthwhile distinctions about sanctification .....	106
13. An oath is sacred .....	108
14. Not forbidden if not mentioned in the Bible .....	108
15. Wicked men gamble, so it is sinful .....	110
16. Conclusion: Gambling as sport or recreation .....	111

#### **CHAPTER 8: Minor Arguments against Gambling ..... 113**

1. Cursing, ranting and blaspheming .....	113
2. Waste of time and decay of health .....	115

3. Greed: Unlawful gain or desire of gain .....	117
4. The wasting of wealth .....	118
5. Legal prohibitions on gambling .....	119
6. If unlawful then evil? .....	120
7. What is forbidden, and how .....	121
8. English laws against gambling .....	122
9. Canon-law condemnation .....	124
10. False testimonies from the 'ancient fathers': <i>Cyprian</i> .....	125
11. False testimonies from : <i>Augustine &amp; Chrysostom</i> .....	127
12. False testimonies from : <i>Bernard</i> .....	129
13. Ancient heathen views .....	129
14. Dicing Emperors of Rome .....	130
15. Dicing kings and princes .....	131
16. Poets and dicing .....	132
17. Abandon things of bad report? .....	135
18. Differences among the learned make men doubtful .....	136

**CHAPTER 9: Cautions to be observed in the use of gambling ..... 139**

1. Games as a special refreshment, not ordinary employment .....	139
2. Only hazard what may be easily spared .....	140
3. Sports are to be used sportingly .....	142
4. Only spend time in play that is free after serious religious duties .....	143
5. Play for game not gain .....	145
6. Do not gamble if forbidden .....	146
7. Do not cause offence when gambling .....	146
8. Only play if you can stay calm .....	148
9. Play reverently, but without calling on the Almighty .....	149
10. Gambling with these cautions, or a complete ban? .....	150
11. Why I entered the fray on this question .....	151

**CHAPTER 10: Extraordinary divinatory lotteries ..... 155**

1. Divinatory or consultative lotteries .....	155
2. Choosing a marriage partner (Bible) .....	156
3. Magistrates and government (Bible) .....	157
4. Justice and retribution (Bible) .....	158
5. Spot the delinquent (Bible) .....	159
6. Divinatory lotteries in later Christendom .....	161
7. Turning ordinary into extraordinary lotteries: Whether to do it .....	162
8. Turning ordinary into extraordinary lotteries: How to do it .....	163
9. Divination among the heathens .....	165
10. Divination by book-opening: Foolishness by the wise .....	166

**CHAPTER 11: The unlawfulness of divinatory lotteries ..... 171**

1. Divination: Once lawful, but not now .....	171
2. Types of unlawful diviners .....	172
3. Why it is not harmless: Curiosity .....	175
4. Why it is not harmless: Superstition .....	176
5. Why it is not harmless: Idolatry .....	177
6. Why it is not harmless: Presumption .....	177
7. Why it is not harmless: Witchery .....	178
8. God versus the devil .....	180
9. Penalties for the use of divinatory lotteries .....	181
10. Just meant to terrify? .....	182

11. No escape from punishment .....	182
12. Conclusion .....	184
<b>CHAPTER 12: An Admonition to avoid these divining Lotteries, with Answers to some Arguments alleged in defence of them: and the Conclusion of the whole .....</b>	<b>187</b>
1. Ignorance no defence .....	187
2. Innocence no defence .....	188
3. Did Augustine approve? .....	190
4. If it sometimes works, why not use it? .....	191
5. Wise men know it is ridiculous .....	192
6. Not magical but natural .....	193
7. The use of Fraud .....	195
8. 'Extraordinary', by Satan .....	197
9. Extraordinary, by God .....	200
10. Final conclusion .....	202
<b>Bibliographical Notes .....</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>Index .....</b>	<b>225</b>