



## What The Bible Says About Alcohol

In a society where we have 12 million alcoholics, it is a shame that people (even Christians) condone drinking. Drinking alcohol has become normality and an obsession in America. Tragically, many fine Christians refuse to abstain. They are caught up in the deception that moderate or social drinking is okay with God. They believe this is the age of liberated Christianity and to mention that social or moderate use of alcohol is wrong will have them calling you "Fundamentalist, law-bound, moral do-gooder." Some will even say we modern, liberated, Christians are free in Christ - we are bound by the law or by your attacks on our freedom to drink. These folks fail to realize that many alcoholics started out a social drinker. They fail to realize that their permissiveness offends every young Jesus convert whom God has convicted of past drinking habits (Matthew 18:6,7). It is also a tragedy that many of these people will become abusers of alcohol and drugs themselves.

Many of the people caught up in these types of deceptions will say, "Well, Jesus turned water into wine and Paul prescribed wine for Timothy to help his stomach." First off, wine is the symbol of Jesus' blood, which is pure and holy not alcoholic. Why would Jesus turn 160 gallons of water into fermented wine so that wedding guests could get smashed then turn around and strictly warn against the dangers of fermented wine in His Word. (See: John 2:11, Proverbs 23:29-35, Matthew 24:48-51, Luke 12:45; 21:34, Romans 13: 13; 14:21, I Corinthians 6:10, Galatians 5:21, Ephesians 5:18, I Thessalonians 5:7,8), Fermented wine is decayed wine. Can this be the symbol of new life in the Spirit? Jesus' holy flesh never saw decay or corruption. Alcohol causes deformed babies, brain damage, and death. Christ is the creator of life, not death. Also, it is a myth that wine is good for the digestion of food and the stomach. The truth is that wine interferes with the digestion process in a detrimental way.

In the Bible the word "wine" was used to denote fermented and non-fermented grape juice. There was no use of the word juice in the Bible. The ways grape juice was prepared to keep from fermenting were through boiling the grape juice into a thick syrup-jelly that was stored in new wine skins and then was diluted with water at the same time of use. This unfermented wine was considered "the best" during Jesus' day (See: John 2:10).

Many ancient philosophers drank and wrote about unintoxicating wine. Some of these men were Aristotle, Virgil, Plutarch, Horace, Homer and Varro. Ancient history also reveals that it was common to boil the wines among the Jewish people in Jesus' day. These methods of preserving grape juice's sweetness were used to prevent fermentation because of Jerusalem's hot climate.

Alcohol is nowhere to be found in any product of nature. Nature never forms liquor. Grapes rot on the branch and turn sour unless artificially processed by man.



The Holy Spirit is turning on the floodlights to expose the evils of alcohol. All use of alcohol is wrong. It is a poison to the Spirit and body. In fact, for some people even just two drinks is enough to get them half-drunk. Drinking defiles the body. Alcohol entices the lusts of the flesh and leads to more drinking. Alcohol can lead to defilement and it is the sin of foolishness to drink and ignore the evidence that it does offend and drag down young converts. It is the sin of pride to drink when so many are becoming alcoholics and to say, "I can handle it, and I only drink in moderation." If it were not for the grace of God, we would all be alcoholics. It is the sin of covetousness to drink for self-gratification. Show me a person who drinks and I will show you a person who enjoys and covets the effects it produces. He covets the taste, effects, and pleasure. Christians are not immune to the alcohol-induced sins of the world just because they claim to be Christians.

Wine is a mocker because of its inherent qualities, "alcohol". Alcohol is the most deceptive drug on the market today because it is the most acceptable. Alcohol has caused more death, crime divorce, incest, abortions, violence, beaten kids, disease and sickness than any other factor on the face of earth. Any person should easily see that the use of alcohol is wrong.

### **TEN REASONS FOR TOTAL ABSTINENCE**

1. It is an offense to new converts and a bad witness to the world.
2. It is unscriptural, condemned in the Old Testament and the New Testament.
3. It is a mockery, which leads to sin and is unwise.
4. It has the potential to deform unborn babies, poison the liver, and cause depression.
5. It is recommended only for terminally ill people with heavy hearts.  
(Proverbs 31:6,7).
6. It is a shameful example to children.
7. It identifies one with the terror and despair of 12 million alcoholics.
8. It is a phony substitute for the true wine of the Holy Spirit.
9. It can become easily habituating even to the nicest of people (even Christians).
10. It has the overwhelming potential to turn a sober child of God into a swaggering fool.

In a world that has lost its morals, God has not. He is the same Holy Father who commands a universal family of sanctified, holy children. Be honest enough to place your moral standards under divine scrutiny until they conform to God's standards. Ask God if you can drink alcohol and He will tell you, "NO!"

**\*\*\* The "high" with Jesus is better than drugs or alcohol\*\*\***