

## WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

### THE DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE

*Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:*

#### Study 32 ALCOHOL

Tonight we will discuss ALCOHOL as it is taught in the Scriptures.

##### 1) WINE DEFINED.

(def) juice from the fruit of the vine, unfermented or fermented based on context.

**Wine**; the Hebrew word is *yayin*, and it means wine of every kind, fermented and unfermented. It is used 140 times in the Old Testament, and its meaning is determined entirely by its context. Most often, it is used of alcoholic wine.

##### 2) WINE IS A MOCKER.

*Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.*  
Mock (def) To deride; to laugh at; to ridicule; to treat with scorn or contempt.

##### 3) STRONG DRINK IS RAGING.

*Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.*  
Rage (def) fury, violence, tumultuous, agitate, to be violently driven.

**Strong drink**; the Hebrew word is *shekar*, which comes from a root word which means to get drunk. It is used 23 times in the Old Testament. It is a very intoxicating drink made from barley, honey, or dates.

##### 4) ALCOHOL IS DECEPTIVE.

*Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.*  
Deceive (def) To mislead the mind; to cause to err; to cause to believe what is false, or disbelieve what is true; to impose on; to delude.

##### 5) ALCOHOL IS DESTRUCTIVE.

*Proverbs 31:3 Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.  
4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:  
5 Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.*

##### 6) ALCOHOL CAUSES ONE TO BE SHAMEFUL.

*Genesis 9:20 And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:  
21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.  
22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.  
23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.*

##### 7) DRUNKENNESS WILL LEAD TO POVERTY.

*Proverbs 23:20 Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:  
21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.*

##### 8) DRUNKENNESS CAUSES PAIN AND SORROW.

*Proverbs 23:29 ¶ Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?  
30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.*

##### 9) GOD TELLS US NOT TO LOOK UPON ALCOHOL.

*Proverbs 23:31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.*

## **10) ALCOHOL STINGS AND BITES LIKE A POISONOUS SERPENT.**

*Proverbs 23:32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.*

## **11) ALOCOHOL LEADS TO IMMORALITY AND PERVERSE TALKING.**

*Proverbs 23:33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.*

## **12) ALCOHOL IS ADDICTIVE.**

*Proverbs 23:34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.*

*35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.*

## **13) ALCOHOL WILL TAKE YOUR HEART AWAY.**

*Hosea 4:11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.*

## **14) GOD WILL CURSE YOU IF YOU GIVE YOUR NEIGHBOR DRINK.**

*Habakkuk 2:15 ¶ Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!*

## **15) IT IS DIRECT DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD TO GET DRUNK.**

*Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*

Drunk (def) Intoxicated; inebriated; overwhelmed or overpowered by spirituous liquor.

## **16) ALCOHOL IS ASSOCIATED WITH REBELLIOUSNESS.**

*Deuteronomy 21:20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.*

## **17) DRINKING ALCOHOL WILL CAUSE YOU TO ERR IN JUDGMENT.**

*Isaiah 28:7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.*

## **18) DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL IF YOU WANT TO LIVE FOR GOD.**

*Leviticus 10:8 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Aaron, saying,*

*9 Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations:*

*10 And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;*

*11 And that ye may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD hath spoken unto them by the hand of Moses.*

## **19) THERE ARE THREE EXPRESSIONS OF WINE IN SCRIPTURE; OLD, NEW & GOOD WINE.**

a. **Old wine** is aged wine. This is very intoxicating.

*Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better.*

b. **New wine** is expressed in two New Testament words or phrases:

\* **Oinon neon**; this is freshly squeezed juice and able to be fermented.

*Matthew 9:17 Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.*

See also Mark 2:22 and Luke 5:37-38 which say the same thing.

\* **Gleukos**; this is fermented sweet wine and is used only in

*Acts 2:13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.*

c. **Good wine** is juice without admixture of any kind. It is pure and unfermented and is used only in

*John 2:10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.*

## **20) JESUS ONLY REFERED TO “FRUIT OF THE VINE” WITH REGARDS TO THE LORD’S SUPPER.**

*Matthew 26:26 ¶ And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.*

*27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;*

*28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

*29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.*

*1 Corinthians 11:23 ¶ For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:*

*24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.*

*25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.*

*26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.*

*27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.*

*28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.*

*29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.*

*30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.*

## **21) JESUS DID NOT TURN WATER IN TO ALCOHOL AT A WEDDING.**

*John 2:1 ¶ And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:*

*2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.*

*3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.*

*4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.*

*5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.*

*6 And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.*

*7 Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.*

*8 And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.*

*9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,*

*10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.*

*11 This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.*

**Good wine** is juice without admixture of any kind. It is pure and unfermented and is used only in John 2:10.

**Worse [wine]** is inferior wine, indicating that this was old, intoxicating fermented wine.

## **22) THIS PASSAGE REFERS TO PURE GRAPE JUICE OR “GOOD WINE.”**

*1 Timothy 5:23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.*

This is not in reference to alcohol or medicine. Pure grape juice has natural healing abilities.

## **23) THIS PASSAGE IS NOT A RECOMMENDATION BUT RATHER A CONDEMNATION.**

*Proverbs 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:*

*5 Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.*

*6 Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.*

*7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.*

This is like a someone telling another, “Don’t drink alcohol in my house. If you are going to drink alcohol, go to a bar to drink.” This is NOT a recommendation!

## **24) ALL THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE GOD TELLS US TO BE SOBER.**

*1 Thessalonians 5:6 ¶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

*7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.*

*8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

*1 Timothy 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*

*1 Timothy 3:10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.*

*11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.*

*Titus 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;*

*8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;*

*Titus 2:1 ¶ But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:*

*2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*

*3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;*

*4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,*

*5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.*

*6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.*

*11 ¶ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,*

*12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*

*1 Peter 4:7 ¶ But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.*

To be completely sober includes to be free from alcohol in your system. The moment you take one drink you are no longer sober. You may not yet be drunk but you are not sober.

## **25) THE SIMPLE BIBLICAL APPLICATION OF ALCOHOL.**

a. It is evident from Scripture that no good thing ever came from drinking fermented wine or strong drink.

b. Since there are no contradictions in the Bible, God cannot condemn alcoholic wine and strong drink on one hand and commend it on the other. Therefore, Proverbs 20:1 stands faithful to the whole of Scripture. Wine remains a mocker and strong drink remains raging, and both are great deceivers of mankind.

c. Nowhere in Scripture does God say that it is alright to drink alcohol so long as you don't get drunk.

d. Abstinence from alcohol and strong drink is the best way to live!