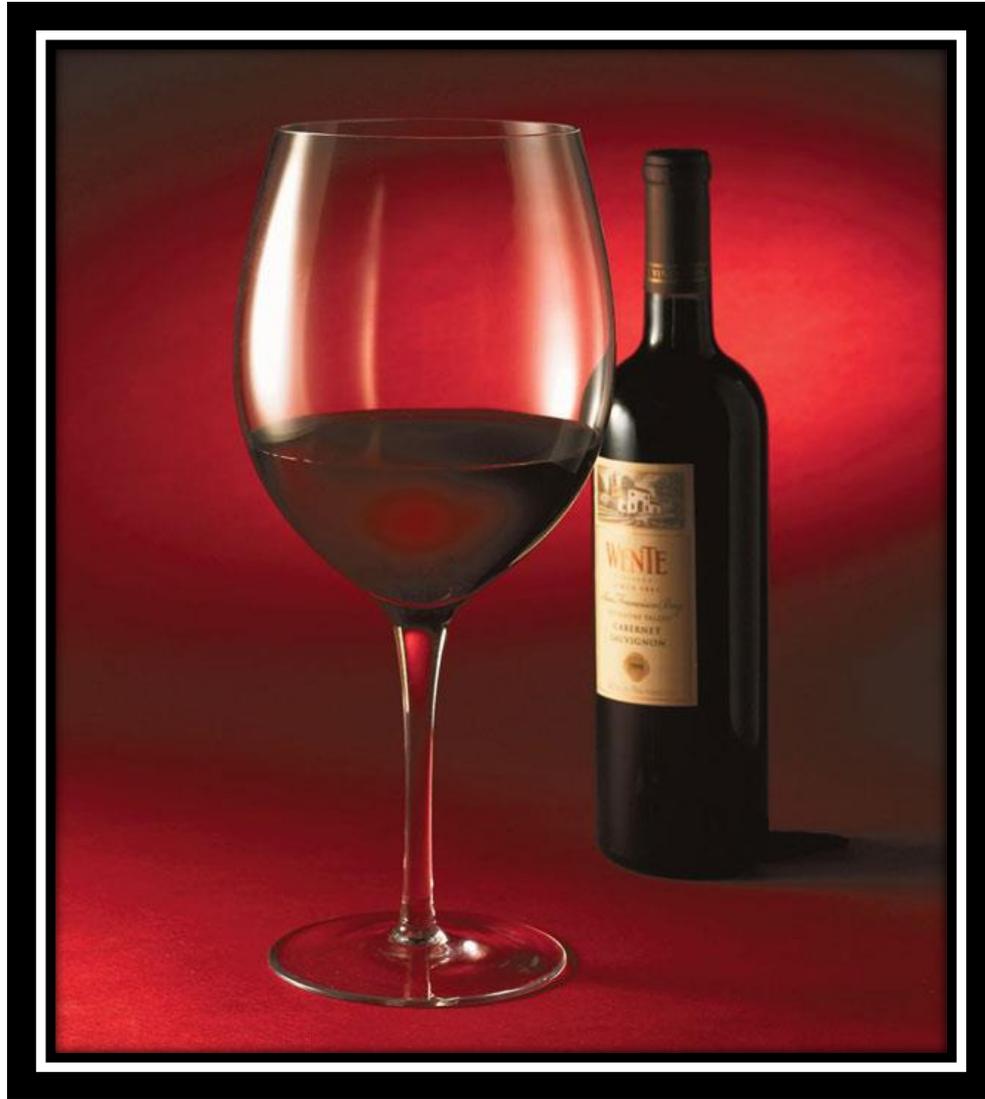


WHAT DOES THE BIBLE REALLY SAY ABOUT WINE?

An Examination of the Alcohol Issue



ASSUMPTIONS

- 1. God Is.**
- 2. God Gave Scripture.**
- 3. Scripture is Absolute Truth.**
- 4. The King James Version Is Scripture.**
- 5. Satan Is at War Against God and Truth.**
- 6. Men Prefer Their Own Rules of Righteousness.**
- 7. Men Prefer Extremes Rather Than God's Wisdom.**

GOALS

- 1. Promote Honest and Careful Bible Study.**
- 2. Test Loyalty to Scripture Against Emotion.**
- 3. Define Concept and Use of Christian Liberty.**
- 4. Contend Against Doctrine of Pharisees.**
- 5. Deliver God's Saints from False Bondage.**
- 6. Magnify the Doctrine of Jesus Christ.**

WINE FACTS - I

- 1. Wine is not grape juice.**
- 2. Wine is the fermented beverage of grapes.**
- 3. Wine is the alcoholic beverage of grapes.**
- 4. Wine is the natural product of grapes.**
- 5. Strong drink is other fermented beverages.**
- 6. Strong drink is other alcoholic beverages.**
- 7. Wine and strong drink if used excessively will cause drunkenness.**

WINE FACTS - II

- 1. Grapes contain about 80% water and 15% sugar by weight naturally while on the vine.**
- 2. The skins of grapes are covered with microscopic fungus that provides natural yeasts.**
- 3. When the grapes are crushed with their skins, the yeast and sugar combine to form alcohol.**
- 4. When the alcohol level reaches 14% it kills the remaining yeast thus stopping fermentation.**
- 5. Extra steps must be taken to either avoid fermentation or to increase it above 14%.**

WINE FACTS - III

- 1. Wine generally has 5-15% alcohol**
- 2. Beer generally has 2 - 5% alcohol.**
- 3. Other drinks vary above and below wine.**
- 4. Wine coolers are diluted with fruit juice.**
- 5. Wine tolerance varies greatly in people.**
- 6. Whiskey, brandy, rum, gin, vodka are distilled drinks.**
- 7. Beer and wine have health benefits.**

THE ISSUE

1. **Some Christians Teach that Any Use of Wine is Sin and Condemned By Scripture.**
 - Wine may be a matter of fellowship.
 - Those differing are carnal and lascivious.
 - They avoid cooking wines, beer-battered food, restaurants serving liquor, etc.

2. **Some Christians Teach that Wine Used in Moderation Is Allowed by Scripture.**
 - Drunkenness but not wine is condemned.
 - Those differing are legalistic and Pharisaical.

3. **Other Christians Are Bewildered and Take Various Positions Between These Points.**
 - Some use it only for medicinal purposes.
 - Some use it only at the Lord's supper.
 - Some use it but with attendant guilt.

HISTORY

- 1. From 1920 to 1933 a Constitutional Amendment Made It Illegal to Make, Transport, or Sell Wine.**
- 2. The "Volstead Act" Defined Intoxicating Liquor As 1/2 of 1% Alcoholic Content By Weight.**
- 3. Billy Sunday (1862-1935), a Presbyterian Evangelist, Played a Large Role in this New Law.**
- 4. The "Temperance" Movement Was a Misnomer, Since They Defined Temperance as Abstinence.**
- 5. Though the foolish Law Is Gone, Many Christians Still Treat Wine As Spiritually and Morally Evil.**

THE JUDGE

1. **"I Esteem All Thy Precepts Concerning All Things To Be Right; and I Hate Every False Way." Psalm 119:128**
2. **"To the Law and to the Testimony: If They Speak Not According to this Word. It Is Because There Is No Light in Them." Isaiah 8:20**
3. **"In Vain They Do Worship Me, Teaching for Doctrines the Commandments of Men." Matthew 15:9**
4. **"Prove All Things; Hold Fast That Which Is Good." I Thessalonians 5:21**

DRUNKENNESS IS SIN - I

- 1. "And Be Not Drunk With Wine, Wherein Is Excess."
Ephesians 5:18**
- 2. "For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in... excess of wine... wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot." I Peter 4:3-4**
- 3. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither...drunkards... shall inherit the kingdom of God." I Corinthians 6:10**
- 4. "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery... drunkenness... and such like." Galatians 5:19-21**

DRUNKENNESS IS SIN - II

5. "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a... drunkard... with such an one no not to eat." I Corinthians 5:11

6. "Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh." Proverbs 23:20

7. "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envy." Romans 13:13

DRUNKENNESS DEFINED - I

- 1. DRUNK.** That has drunk intoxicating liquor to an extent which affects steady self control; intoxicated, inebriated; overcome by alcoholic liquor.

- 2. INTOXICATION.** The action of rendering stupid, insensible or disordered in intellect, with a drug or alcoholic liquor; making drunk or inebriated; the condition of being so stupified.

- 3. Drunkenness is babbling speech.**
 - I Samuel 1:12-16
 - Proverbs 23:29
 - Acts 2:4-15

- 4. Drunkenness is involuntary nakedness.**
 - Genesis 9:20-24
 - Genesis 19:30-36
 - Lamentation 4:21
 - Habakkuk 2:15

- 5. Drunkenness is staggering movements.**
 - Job 12:25
 - Psalm 107:27
 - Isaiah 19:14; 24:20; 28:7; 29:9
 - Jeremiah 25:27

DRUNKENNESS DEFINED - II

- 6. Drunkenness is loss of judgment.**
 - Proverbs 31:4-7; 23:33
 - II Samuel 11:13
 - Isaiah 28:7
 - Hosea 4:11
 - Habakkuk 2:5
- 7. Drunkenness is foolish conduct.**
 - Proverbs 20:1
 - Proverbs 23:29, 33
 - Psalm 69:12
 - Psalm 78:65
- 8. Drunkenness is vomiting and sickness.**
 - Proverbs 23:24-25
 - Isaiah 19:14
 - Jeremiah 25:27
 - Hosea 7:5
 - Jeremiah 23:9
- 9. Drunkenness is personal poverty.**
 - Proverbs 23:29
 - Proverbs 21:17; 23:21

DRUNKENNESS DEFINED - III

- 10. Drunkenness is excessive drinking.**
 - **Proverbs 23:30**
 - **Isaiah 5:11**
 - **Ephesians 5:18**
 - **I Peter 4:3**

- 11. Drunkenness is not beyond consciousness.**
 - **II Samuel 11:13**

- 12. Drunkenness is practiced by Prohibitionists.**
 - **Anesthesia in medical surgery.**
 - **This was approved by God (Proverbs 31:6-7)**

WINE COMMENDED - I

"He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; and wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart" (Ps 104:14-15).

- 1. God ordained wine for man.**
- 2. God ordained a purpose for wine.**
- 3. We know oil helps dry skin.**
- 4. We know bread makes the heart strong.**
- 5. We know wine makes the heart glad.**
- 6. Grape juice does not make the heart glad.**

WINE COMMENDED - II

"And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my vine, which cheereth God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?"

Judges 9:13

"Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more."

Proverbs 31:6-7

"A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things."

Ecclesiastes 10:19

"And they of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine."

Zechariah 10:7

WINE COMMENDED - III

- 1. The previous verses clearly indicate God's purpose for wine to cheer man's heart.**
- 2. A large meal, by creating drowsiness and relaxation, has a similar effect.**
- 3. We use Contact, Actifed, Aspirin, NyQuil, sleeping pills, tranquilizers, antidepressants, anesthesia, and so forth for similar affects.**
- 4. Some drinks are called "cordials" - a beverage stimulating, comforting, or invigorating the heart; restorative, reviving, cheering.**
- 5. It is the common knowledge of man's experience that wine is used to relax, comfort, and cheer. That is why it is used at parties, weddings, fine dinners, etc.**
- 6. The use of "Cheers!" with a toast of wine or champagne is appropriate and definitive.**

WINE COMMENDED - IV

"And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the Lord thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household" (Deut 14:26).

- 1. This was an annual celebration.**
- 2. It was a feast before the Lord.**
- 3. God commended the use of wine.**
- 4. God commended the use of strong drink.**
- 5. God assumed they would desire such drinks.**
- 6. It was to be done with rejoicing.**
- 7. The whole family was to participate.**
- 8. This is the most neglected verse in the Bible.**

WINE COMMENDED - V

"For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners" (Luke 7:33-34).

- 1. John did not drink wine for he was a Nazarite.**
- 2. Jesus did drink wine for He here admits it.**
- 3. A winebibber is a drunkard and habitual drinker.**
- 4. Such an accusation did not arise from drinking only water or grape juice.**
- 5. Jesus did not deny the use of wine at all.**

WINE COMMENDED - VI

"For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken" (I Cor 11:21).

- 1. When "drunken" is used as a participial adjective as here, it means drunk or intoxicated.**
- 2. To prove the above assertion, see Acts 2:15 and I Thess 5:7.**
- 3. Paul corrected the abuse of the supper but not the beverage.**
- 4. Wine is unleavened by virtue of the fermentation process which kills the yeast.**

WINE COMMENDED - VII

"Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities" (I Tim 5:23).

"Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre" (I Tim 3:8).

"The aged woman likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things" (Titus 2:3).

- 1. Paul told Timothy, the Bishop, to use a little.**
- 2. Bishops are warned against wine addiction.**
- 3. Paul allowed deacons to use some.**
- 4. Paul allowed the aged women to use some.**
- 5. Others not in these categories could use more.**

WINE COMMENDED - VIII

- 1. Abraham and Melchizedek shared it.**
- 2. Isaac blessed Jacob with plenty of wine.**
- 3. David provided it for Israel.**
- 4. Nehemiah served it to King Artaxerxes.**
- 5. The priests drank the best of it.**
- 6. Job's family drank wine.**
- 7. Solomon recommended it for pleasure.**
- 8. Wisdom is described as preparing wine for seekers.**
- 9. Jesus provided it for a wedding.**
- 10. The gospel is compared to free wine.**

IS WINE WINE? - I

- 1. The most popular argument for total abstinence is that "wine" may mean two different things.**
 - If it is condemned, then it is fermented wine.**
 - If it is commended, then it is unfermented wine.**
 - This is "circular reasoning" at its very worst.**

- 2. "Wine" in English has always been the fermented juice of the grape used as a beverage.**
- 3. "Wine" in English has never been unfermented grape juice. See the Oxford English Dictionary.**
- 4. Every Scriptural context describing wine or its effects is always an alcoholic beverage.**
- 5. The Hebrew "YAYIN" is the same.**
- 6. The Greek "OINOS" is the same.**

IS WINE WINE? - II

- 1. Noah planted a vineyard and became drunken. Genesis 9:21**
- 2. Abraham and Melchizedek drank wine. Genesis 14:18**
- 3. Lot became drunk by wine from his daughters (Gen 19:32-35).**
- 4. David and Esther used the wine not to be seen!
(II Samuel 6:19 cp Esther 5:6 cp Prov 23:31)**
- 5. Solomon urged and Abigail gave the wine that mocks!
(Eccl. 9:7 cp I Samuel 25:18 cp Prov. 20:1)**
- 6. Christ and Timothy used the wine Paul feared!
(John 2:3 cp I Timothy 5:23 cp Rom 14:21)**

IS WINE WINE? - III

- 1. Why is it associated with strong drink?
 - "Strong drink" always occurs with "wine".**
 - The context is always an intoxicating drink.****
- 2. Why were bishops not to be given to it?**
- 3. Why were deacons not to be given to much of it?**
- 4. Why were aged women not to be given to much of it?**
- 5. Why was Timothy told to use a little of it?**
- 6. Why is reference made to an "excess" of it?**
- 7. Did the Good Samaritan pour juice into wounds?**
- 8. Since when would juice burst old bottles?**
- 9. How would grape juice dull the pain of crucifixion?**

IS NEW WINE WINE?

"Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. But Peter...said unto them... these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day" (Acts 2:13-15).

"Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart" (Hosea 4:11).

"Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth" (Joel 1:5).

- 1. New wine generally means wine of current or recent vintage.**
- 2. Old or aged wine is that of more distant vintage and thus commands a greater premium.**

IS SWEET WINE WINE?

"And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine" (Isaiah 49:26).

- 1. Asking for a sweet wine in a restaurant will not be understood as a request for grape juice.**
- 2. Sweet wines are distinguished from dry wines due to the sweetness of the grapes or the fermentation process.**

What About Diluting Wine?

- 1. Some choose circular reasoning and/or selective historical research that Bible wine was diluted to grape juice.**
- 2. If this was the case, why did it often cause drunkenness?**
- 3. What does the Bible say about diluting wine? It is a waste of grapes and as foolish as counting dross equal to silver.**

“Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water.”

Isaiah 1:22

DOES DRUNKENNESS CONDEMN WINE? - 1

- 1. Or, Does wine cause drunkenness?**
- 2. Does food cause gluttony?**
- 3. Do guns cause murder?**
- 4. Do women cause adultery?**
- 5. Does property cause stealing?**
- 6. Do stars cause idolatry?**
- 7. Do animals cause bestiality?**
- 8. Wine does not cause drunkenness!**
- 9. The human heart causes drunkenness!**
- 10. Drunkenness is the abuse of wine!**
- 11. Drunkenness is an excess of wine!**
- 12. Condemning wine misses the root problem!**
- 13. The abuse of a thing does not condemn the thing!**
- 14. Verses condemning drunkenness do not condemn wine!**

DOES DRUNKENNESS CONDEMN WINE? - 2

"And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear" (Mark 7:14-16).

"Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into a man, it cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of man, proceed evil thoughts... foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man" (Mark 7:18-23).

DOES DRUNKENNESS CONDEMN WINE? - 3

- 1. Or, Does wine cause drunkenness?**
- 2. Jesus said, "No!"**
- 3. Jesus said wine cannot defile a man.**
- 4. Jesus said wine goes into the belly.**
- 5. Jesus said wine ends up in the draught.**
- 6. Jesus said wine does not enter the heart.**
- 7. Jesus said drunkenness comes out of man**
- 8. Jesus said drunkenness is in the heart.**
- 9. Jesus said the heart defiles a man.**
- 10. Jesus taught Godly understanding.**

DOES DRUNKENNESS CONDEMN WINE? - 4

- 1. Using verses against drunkenness to condemn moderate use of wine is a non sequitur, Latin for 'it does not follow'.**
- 2. Whether the conclusion is true or not does not matter, for the connection between the premise and conclusion are false.**
- 3. It would be an equal non sequitur of this type to prohibit eating any food by the use of verses against gluttony.**
- 4. Teetotalers do not care about logic, because they have already made up their minds that they are against wine.**

WHAT ABOUT LEVITICUS 10:9?

"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."

Leviticus 10:9

- 1. This verse is for Aaron and his sons only.**
- 2. This involves the tabernacle only.**
- 3. Compare Ezekiel 44:21.**
- 4. The priests otherwise drank the best wine.**
- 5. See Numbers 18:12 and Deuteronomy 18:3-4.**
- 6. Should we also prohibit wool clothing?**
- 7. Should we also prohibit marrying widows?**
- 8. Consider Ezekiel 44:17, 22.**

WHAT ABOUT NUMBERS 6:1 -3?

"When either man or woman shall separate themselves to vow a vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves unto the Lord: He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink."

Numbers 6:2-3

- 1. This abstinence was only for Nazarites.**
- 2. This abstinence was only for a short time.**
- 3. This vow proves everyone else using wine.**
- 4. This vow also prohibits grapes and raisins.**
- 5. This vow also prohibits haircuts and funerals.**
- 6. The Nazarite did drink after the vow.**
- 7. See Numbers 6:20.**
- 8. Even our Lord did not make such a vow.**
- 9. See Luke 7:33-34.**

WHAT ABOUT DEUT 29:2-6?

"Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the Lord your God" (Deut 29:6).

- 1. Does abstinence promote communion with God?**
- 2. Israel only abstained while in the wilderness.**
- 3. Israel only abstained while they had manna.**
- 4. God provided Canaan with ready vineyards.**
- 5. See Deuteronomy 6:10-12.**
- 6. Should we also abstain from bread?**
- 7. Maybe it is bread that defiles a man.**
- 8. God denied Israel normal sustenance here to trust Him.**

WHAT ABOUT PROVERBS 20:1?

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Pr 20:1).

- 1. Proverbs are dark sayings needing interpretation.**
- 2. See Proverbs 1:6 and John 16:29.**
- 3. Wine itself does not mock.**
- 4. Strong drink itself does not rage.**
- 5. We have here metonymy of cause for effect.**
- 6. Abuse of wine may cause mocking behavior.**
- 7. Abuse of strong drink may cause rage.**
- 8. Does the rod give wisdom (Prov 29:15)?**
- 9. Is the tongue a fire (James 3:6)?**
- 10. Did the Jews have Moses (Luke 16:29)?**
- 11. Wine only mocks the drunk.**
- 12. Strong drink only brings rage to the drunk.**
- 13. Moderate use does not fit here at all.**
- 14. Drinking is only folly to those deceived.**

WHAT ABOUT 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" (Prov 23:31).

- 1. Proverbs are dark sayings needing interpretation.**
- 2. See Proverbs 1:6 and John 16:29.**
- 3. The context is drunkenness (23:29).**
- 4. The context is tarrying long (23:30).**
- 5. The context is drunkenness (23:33-35).**
- 6. Simply looking has never caused such evil.**
- 7. "Look" is metonymy for an evil desire.**
- 8. Did Job stop thinking (Job 31:1)?**
- 9. Did David seek cataracts (Ps 119:37)?**
- 10. Did Jesus condemn looking or lusting (Matt 5:28)?**
- 11. Why did God create it for man?**
- 12. This passage condemns the folly of drunkenness.**

WHAT ABOUT PROVERBS 31:4?

"It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink" (Prov 31:4).

- 1. Proverbs are dark sayings needing interpretation.**
- 2. See Proverbs 1:6 and John 16:29.**
- 3. Are all men to be bound by kings?**
- 4. The context is the responsibility of kings.**
- 5. The context is perverted judgment by drunkenness.**
- 6. Why did Esther give wine to Ahasuerus?**
- 7. Why did Melchizedek and Jesus, both kings, drink?**
- 8. Kings should only drink with purpose (Eccl 10:17).**
- 9. Should kings be celibate (31:3)?**
- 10. Kings must be more temperate than others.**

WHAT ABOUT DANIEL 1:8?

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank" (Dan 1:8).

- 1. Daniel purposed this action in his heart.**
- 2. There is no reference made to any command.**
- 3. He may have been heeding Solomon's advice (Pr 23:1-3).**
- 4. He may have been avoiding things sacrificed to idols.**
- 5. Do the Prohibitionists, like Daniel, drink only water?**
- 6. Do the Prohibitionists, like Daniel, eat only legumes?**
- 7. Daniel did drink wine later (10:3).**

WHAT ABOUT HABAKKUK 2:15?

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness" (Hab 2:15).

- 1. The evil here is making another drunk.**
- 2. The evil here is to see another's nakedness.**
- 3. How does this condemn wine with dinner?**
- 4. How does this condemn wine at a wedding?**
- 5. Melchizedek gave Abraham wine.**
- 6. David gave Israel wine (II Samuel 6:19).**
- 7. Jesus created wine for a wedding.**

WHAT ABOUT ROMANS 14:21?

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak" (Rom 14:21).

- 1. The context is things associated with idolatry.**
- 2. There were no Prohibitionists in Paul's day.**
- 3. Wine was often used as a drink offering.**
- 4. Paul just as clearly condemns offensive meat.**
- 5. Should we become vegetarians for the Adventists?**
- 6. See "Christian liberty" in a few pages.**

WHAT ABOUT I TIMOTHY 3:3?

"A bishop then must be...not given to wine" (I Tim 3:2-3).

- 1. Ministers are to be examples to the flock.**
- 2. But Paul told Timothy to drink wine (I Tim 5:23).**
- 3. "Given" describes addiction, inclination, or prone to.**
- 4. Bishops were not to be given to filthy lucre.**
- 5. See Titus 1:7.**
- 6. Could Timothy use money moderately?**
- 7. Deacons were not to be given to much wine.**
- 8. Observe the different levels of temperance.**

PHARISAISM AND WINE - I

"Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances (Touch not; taste not; handle not; which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh" (Col 2:20-23).

- 1. This is the same heresy Jesus had to fight.**
- 2. Christians must avoid false religious ordinances.**
- 3. "Touch not; taste not; handle not" is heresy.**
- 4. The things going in a man cannot defile him.**
- 5. The doctrines of men nullify the God's worship.**
- 6. These rules make only a show.**
- 7. They are a show of will worship - abstinence.**
- 8. They are a show of humility.**
- 9. They are a show of bodily self-denial.**
- 10. They do not give proper honor to the body.**

PHARISAISM AND WINE - II

- 1. Colossians 2:20-23 is an important passage.**
- 2. Mark 7:1-23 is an important passage.**
- 3. Pharisees bind man-made burdens on men.**
- 4. These rules make God's worship vain.**
- 5. These rules make God's word vain.**
- 6. We have no right to bind men by such rules.**
- 7. These rules miss the real problem.**
- 8. These rules deny God's gifts to men.**
- 9. These rules corrupt honest Bible study.**
- 10. These rules promote human tradition.**

CHRISTIAN LIBERTY - I

- 1. Christians have liberty where God has not spoken.**
- 2. God has condemned drunkenness plainly.**
- 3. God has warned of wine's deceitful effect.**
- 4. But God has created it for man's pleasure.**
- 5. Christians are at liberty to use it moderately.**
- 6. Liberty cannot provide temptation (Rom 13:14).**
- 7. Liberty cannot become a master (I Cor 6:12).**
- 8. Liberty should not cause arrogance (I Cor 8:1)**
- 9. Liberty should be used confidently (Rom 14:23).**
- 10. Liberty should be kept private (Rom 14:22).**

CHRISTIAN LIBERTY - II

- 1. Christians have liberty where God has not spoken.**
- 2. Liberty considers the consciences of sincere persons.**
- 3. Liberty does not consider stubborn Pharisees.**
- 4. Liberty may not always be expedient.**
- 5. Liberty allows moderate drinking or abstinence.**
- 6. Liberty does not condemn either position.**
- 7. Liberty does condemn heresies.**
- 8. Liberty may practice abstinence (Jer 35).**
- 9. Liberty does reveal strength and weakness.**
- 10. Liberty is a great blessing of Christ's gospel.**

WHAT IS TEMPERANCE?

1. **TEMPERANCE.** The practice or habit of restraining oneself in provocation, passion, desire. Self-restraint and moderation in action of any kind. Self-restraint in the indulgence of any natural affection or appetite. Moderation in the use of anything.
2. **Bible temperance is Christian self-discipline.**
3. **The Temperance Movement corrupted this word to mean immoderate abstinence - teetotaling.**
4. **Athletes are temperate in all things (I Cor 9:25).**
5. **Temperance = Abstinence?**
6. **Temperance = Self-Discipline?**
7. **Temperance = Moderation?**

WHAT ABOUT ALCOHOLISM?

1. The Bible does not know the term.
2. The Bible knows drunkenness.
3. The Bible knows abstinence.
4. The Bible knows temperance.
5. Alcoholism is not abstinence.
6. Alcoholism is not temperance.
7. Alcoholism is usually drunkenness.
8. Alcoholism is a sin, not a sickness.
9. Alcoholism comes from the heart.
10. Alcoholism is a function of the will.
11. Alcohol only overcomes the willing or deceived.
12. Deception cannot be an excuse for long.

CONCLUSION

- 1. God has not commanded us to drink or abstain.**
- 2. God has created wine for man's pleasure.**
- 3. God has created strong drink for man's pleasure.**
- 4. Like all creations they are not to be abused.**
- 5. We cannot condemn drinking wine from Scripture.**
- 6. We must commend drinking wine from Scripture.**
- 7. We cannot impose man-made rules on others.**
- 8. Scripture is God's mind of wisdom and liberty.**
- 9. Great abuse of Scripture occurs on this subject.**
- 10. We should submit to Scripture and then conscience.**