

Drinking

Setting other technical new wine/old wine, and root language facts aside (that show how many references to “wine” in the Scriptures, indicate non-fermented *‘products of the vine’*), we’ll keep this study short and focus rather on the use of alcohol from God’s ideological perspective.

There are enough passages, to categorize the use of alcohol as a *“pleasure of the flesh”* issue that saints must weigh heavily in their hearts and consciences:

First, in drawing a parallel here as an example, there’s no mention in the Bible where one could find passages that straight-out say that the precise term “sword” (merely described as a noun) would itself be, in and of itself, sinful in any idle state. –its just a word when not being “in the act of”. It is “murder” however, that most often refers to the sin connected with swords. The focus is on the sin, or the unjustifiable willfulness of someone, which, in one’s heart *takes* him to the act, not the item itself that provides him with the means, as it is the actor that will be condemned under God’s judgment, not the sword. In like terms we also do not find the Bible referring to money as being evil, but the heart’s immoral *use* of money. (i.e. “*the*

love of money is the root of all evil”, not “money” itself, as Paul explained in I Timothy 6:10.)

Many who have not thought this through, seem to think that since they have found no clear-cut passages making “wine” *itself* definitively “a sin”, that partaking in fermented wine must be okay. Not so fast. Consider how a “prostitute” is not yet in sin until willful thoughts of pleasuring the flesh take control. Likewise is willful indulgence in alcoholic beverages for the sole purpose of pleasuring the flesh without God’s blessings.

Therefore, just as the Bible focuses on the act of adultery, it also focuses not on the wine itself, but more so on the willingness of one to defame his own temple of clearer pristine senses for pleasuring oneself in a fleshly manner. Drinking just one drink can place one in this category. Otherwise one might then also ask, “How many trysts with a prostitute does it take, before such an act is qualified as *adultery*?” Your spouse might more quickly answer *for* you, that it would only take one time.

There’s only one who would want you to think that God looks gleefully upon drinking one or two. I myself, do not serve him.

Consider some of these passages:

Deut. 21:20,21	Prov 20:1	Prov 31:4-7	Isa 56:12	Micah 2:11	Luke 21:34
Deut. 29:19,20	Prov 21:17	Isa 5:11-12,22	Jer 25:27	Nah 1:10	Rom 13:13,14
Deut. 32:33	Prov 23:20	Isa 19:14	Hos 4:11	Hab 2:15,16	Gal 5:19-21
I Sam 1:14	Prov 23:21	Isa 24:9,11	Joel 3:3	Matt 24:48-51	Eph 5:18
Psalms 69:12	Prov 23:29-35	Isa 28:1,3,7,8	Amos 2:8	Luke 12:45-47	I Thes 5:7,8

There is no endorsement for the unnecessary use of alcohol in the Scriptures, as it is only permitted in extreme medicinal cases. If we have no genuine need of this permission, we are then dangerously testing an undefined area of “excess”, as warned in Ephesians 5:18, whereupon it is punishable per Galatians 5:21.

Some refer to Prov. 31:6&7 as a defense. Study the text. Are you ready to perish? Don’t tempt God my friends!

The bottom line is this: do our hearts desire drink, as we would also desire indulging in adultery? –does alcohol glorify God? Is it more of a “pleasure of the flesh” than a necessary need (even if given medicinal authority), just as many illegal prescription and street drugs become? And should we encourage others to snub God’s many passages and perhaps even encourage them to “loosen up a little”? (*the reading of Habakkuk 2:15 is strongly urged here*)

Do we want to take unnecessary chances? –like Satan wants us to do?

More related Scripture...

Sober; be sober; live soberly; sobriety, etc.:

Acts 26:25	I Thess. 5:6,8	I Tim. 3:2,11	Titus 2:2,4,6,12	I Peter 5:8
II Cor. 5:13	I Tim. 2:9,15	Titus 1:7,8	I Peter 1:13	



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“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.” —I Peter 4:7

