

# THE DANGERS OF DRINKING

4 August 2021

1. Drunkenness characterized the generation that perished in the flood of Noah's day (Luke 17:27).
2. Drunkenness was one of the sins for which God overthrew and destroyed Sodom (Luke 17:28).
3. Drunkenness destroyed Ephraim (Isaiah 28:1).
4. Drunkenness was a degrading factor in the downfall of Nineveh (Nahum 1:10).
5. Drunkenness was one of the sins for which God destroyed Samaria (Amos 6:6).
6. Drunkenness made the Amalekites easy to defeat following their looting of Ziklag (1 Samuel 30:16).
7. Drunkenness brought defeat to Benhadad and 32 allied kings in the first battle between Syria and Israel in the days of Ahab (1 Kings 20:12).
8. Drunkenness marked the downfall of Babylon and Darius the Median took his kingdom (Dan. 5:22-31).
9. The Bible declares in Proverbs 31:4 **"It is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted."**
10. The drunken French Army was crushed by the abstaining German army during World War II.
11. Isaiah describes the downfall of **"the drunkards of Ephraim"** in Isaiah 28:3 and 7.

## SHOULD PREACHERS PREACH AGAINST DRINKING?

1. Isaiah did! Isaiah 5:11 **"<sup>11</sup> Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"**
2. Isaiah 5:22-23, **"Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!"**
3. Hosea preached it. He linked it with vice and immorality. Hosea 4:11, **"Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart."**
4. Joel preached against it. Joel 3:3, **"And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink."**
5. Habakkuk preached against it in Habakkuk 2:15. **"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!"**
6. Amos preached against it. Amos 2:11-12 **"<sup>11</sup> And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the LORD. <sup>12</sup> But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not."**
7. Micah preached against it. Micah 2:11 **"If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people."**
8. The Apostle Paul preached of righteousness, temperance (restraint, self-control), and judgment to come. (Acts 24:25.)
9. Many preachers today refuse to preach against drinking. That's not God's preacher! God's preachers must warn the people that **"wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging and whoso is deceived thereby is not wise!"**(Proverbs 20:1)

## PERSONAL TRAGEDIES CAUSED BY DRUNKENNESS

1. Noah's drunkenness resulted in the cursing of Canaan, the son of Ham (Genesis 9:20-27).
2. Lot has relations with his two daughters (Genesis 19:30-38).

3. Nabal (Means foolish). (1 Samuel 25:36-38).
4. David tried to get Uriah drunk in order to hide his own sin (2 Samuel 11:13).
5. Absalom got his brother Amnon drunk before he had him killed. (2 Samuel 13).
6. King Elah was assassinated while he was drunk (1 Kings 16:9).
7. Queen Vashti was dethroned by King Ahasuerus because she would not cooperate in his wild, drunken party. (Esther chapter 1).
8. During a drinking party, Belshazzar saw the handwriting on the wall signifying that he had been weighed in the balances and found wanting (Daniel chapter 5).
9. John the Baptist was slain; had his head cut off at a drunken birthday dance in Matthew 14.
10. The believers at Corinth disgraced the Lord's Supper with drunkenness and brought about a rebuke from the Apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 11).
11. Paul had to tell the Ephesian believers "**Be not drunk with wine wherein is excess but be filled with the SPIRIT.**" (Ephesians 5:18).

### CLEAR WARNINGS FROM THE BIBLE AGAINST DRINKING

1. Isaiah 5:11-12, 5:22, Habakkuk 2:15, Proverbs 23:29-35, Luke 21:34, Galatians 5:19-21, 1 Cor. 6:9-11.

### THE MYTH OF MODERATION

1. The Bible puts adultery, fornication, stealing, idolatry, hate, murder, extortion, seditions, covetousness, revellings, and drunkenness in the SAME category. These are all lusts of the flesh.
  - a. If I can drink moderately, logically that means I can do any of these other things in moderation.
    - i. But we know that none of these things have ANY place in the Christian life.

### CONCLUSION

1. The Bible is very definite on this subject.
  - a. It declares in Galatians 5:24 "**They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.**"
  - b. Romans 8:1 says, "**There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the FLESH, but after the Spirit.**"
  - c. Romans 13:13 "**Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. <sup>14</sup> But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.**"
2. For those who say that it is not possible for a whole nation to abstain from drinking, Israel proves them wrong (Deuteronomy 29:5-6).
3. God is pleased by those who choose to abstain as the Rechabites did (Jeremiah 35:14, 19).
4. To the priests: "**Do not drink wine nor strong drink.**" (Leviticus 10:9-10).
5. To the Nazarite: "**He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink**" (Numbers 6:3).
6. Abstainers: the mother of Samson (Judges 13:4), Samson (13:5), Samuel (1 Sam 1), Daniel (Dan. 1:8), John the Baptist (Luke 1:15), Paul (Acts 18:18, Rom. 14:21), Peter (1 Pet 2:11)
7. Proverbs chapter 31:4 "**It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:**"
  - a. This applies to you since your Father is "King of kings and Lord of Lords." You are a prince!
8. "**Give strong drink unto him that is ready to PERISH!**" We shall never perish (Jn 10:28). Drink is not for us.