

Alcohol Avoidance

Seven Biblical Reasons Christians Should Not Drink

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Deceives

Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler whoever is lead astray by them is not wise

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Destroys

Proverbs 23:31 Do not gaze at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper.

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Dulls Discernment

Genesis 19:33 That night [Lot's daughters] got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in to him and lay with him and he was not aware of when she lay down.

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Delays Your Deliverance

Mat 27:34 (NIV) They offered Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink.

R

Leads to Drunkenness

1Cor 6:10 (NIV) Nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanders nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

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Damages Others

Romans 14:21 It is better not to eat or drink wine or do anything else that will cause your brother to fail.

W

Deters your Destiny

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ALCOHOL AVOIDANCE

Seven Reasons A Christian Should Not Drink.

The first problem man had on this side of the flood was caused by the abuse of alcohol - a father was shamed and a son was cursed. This has been a significant spiritual issue since Noah's day. In the 21st Century America:

- ◆ 50% of US adults, 51% of 18-20 year olds, and 28% of 12-18 year olds drink
- ◆ Alcohol problems from underage drinking cost us over \$60 Billion annually.

1. Drinking Deceives

Most alcoholics did not intend to become an alcoholic.

- ◆ (Pro 20:1 NIV) *Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise.*
- ◆ (Pro 23:31-34 NIV) *Do not gaze at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly! In the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper... You will be like one sleeping on the high seas, lying on top of the rigging.*

2. Drinking Destroys

Drinking destroys lives. In the United States alone it causes

- ◆ 4 million emergency room visits and 79,000 deaths each year
- ◆ One fatal traffic accident every 33 minutes
- ◆ Hepatitis, cirrhosis, and several forms of cancer are closely linked to drinking alcoholic beverages.
- ◆ (Pro 23:29-30 NIV) *Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaints? Who has needless bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? Those who linger over wine, who go to sample bowls of mixed wine.*

3. Drinking Dulls Discernment

Alcohol dulls the brain's capacity for self-criticism and sense of caution. Reaction times slow, coordination is disturbed, and drowsiness follows.

- ◆ (Gen 19:33 NIV) *That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and lay with him. He was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.*

4. Drinking Delays Your Deliverance

When we medicate our pain we keep ourselves from facing our real need. Jesus refused to medicate his pain.

- ◆ (Mat 27:34 NIV) *There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.*

When we drink to forget we only delay the memory to a later time having wasted the time God is giving us. Face your pain, refuse to continue medicating by drinking.

5. Drinking Leads to Drunkenness

If you never drink you will never get drunk. If you never start you will never have to stop. Drunkenness is clearly condemned in scripture.

- ◆ (Gal 5:19 - 21NIV) *The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*
- ◆ See also 1Co 6:10, Rom 13:13, Luk 21:34 , and Eph 5:18

6. Drinking Damages Others

Drinking puts our children, friends, and co-workers at risk. For every alcoholic there are at least four other people who are affected. This means that in the U.S. there are at least seventy-two million other people dealing with the effects of this drug abuse in some way. Additionally, according to the American Psychiatric Association (DSM-IV-TR 2000), children of parents diagnosed with alcoholism are almost four times more likely to develop alcohol-related problems than individuals in the general population

- ◆ (Rom 14:21 NIV) *It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.*

7. Drinking Deters your Destiny and Consecration

Through the Bible abstinence from strong drink and wine was a sign of consecration to God. Priests (Lev 10:9), and those taking the Nazarite Vow (Num 6:2-3) were forbidden to drink. Jeremiah cited the Rechabites as an example of consecration. Daniel would not drink the King's wine as an act of consecration to the Lord. This principle continues into the New Testament. John the Baptist did not drink alcohol. Leaders in the church (Tit 1:7), including Bishops (1Ti 3:3) and deacons (1Ti 3:8) were not to be drunkards.

We are called in our generation to be priests unto God and to consecrate ourselves to declare the coming of Jesus to this world.