

THE STING OF THE DEVIL OR WINE AND THE WORD OF GOD

FBC-PC 4-27-14 AM

Proverbs 23:31-32 Do not look upon the wine when it is red, *when* it gives its color in the cup, *when* it goes down smoothly, at the last it bites like an asp and stings like an adder.

One of the most controversial subjects in the Church of Jesus Christ is: "Is it all right for Christians to drink alcoholic beverages?"

How does the Bible handle this?

The Old Testament (Hebrew) word for wine is *yah'-yin*

From an unused root meaning to *effervesce*; *wine* (as fermented); by implication *intoxication*: - banqueting, wine, wine [-bibber].

The New Testament (Greek) word is *oy'-nos*

A primary word (or perhaps of Hebrew origin [*yah'-yin*]); "wine" (literally or figuratively): - wine. It also used for raisins, grapes and products of grapes.

"Wine" found 231 times in 212 verses in KJV

In its most basic form, it is the blood of the grapes.

Deuteronomy 32:14 butter from cows, and milk from sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the sons of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat. And you drank the blood of the grape.

Let us consider what God' Word says that should discourage any true Christian from drinking wine and alcoholic drinks. I am sure you will search for and find those verses that seem to okay it. So here is a list that you should prayerfully consider.

Consider who you belong to and represent:

I Corinthians 6:17-20; 3:17; 10:31-33; Romans 14:21-23; Ephesians 5:18; Samson and parents forbidden to drink wine (Judges 13:7). John the Baptizer was to be free of alcohol as well (Luke 1:15).

Note : The Bible never says Jesus drank wine, though his enemies called him a wine bibber because he mingled with the people who did (Matthew 11:18-19).

During the Passover all the Gospels talk about "the cup" and "the fruit of the vine". Remember the Passover was to be observed without fermentation (Exodus 12 : 15,19).

Consider who wants you out of control:

I Peter 5:8; Isaiah 5:20-25; Proverbs 23:29-35; I Peter 4:3; Hab. 2:15

Consider the effects of alcohol on one's life:

Genesis 9:20-27; Proverbs 31:4-7; Isaiah 28:7-8; Daniel 1:8; Leviticus 10:8-10; Hosea 4:11;

Conclusions: Proverbs 23:20-21; Leviticus 10:9

We are the priests of God during this age of Grace (I Peter 2:9-10; Revelation 1:5-6) therefore new are to keep our testimonies clean in every way including what we drink. We are to be careful not to offend the weaker Christians. Romans 14:21