

Are Christians Authorized To Drink Alcoholic Beverages?

Can Christians drink alcoholic beverages in a moderate, social or recreational way without sinning?

From CDC Website

A recent study found that one in eight total deaths among U.S. adults aged 20–64 years during 2015–2019 resulted from excessive alcohol use

[https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/m7308a1.htm#:~:text=A%20recent%20study%20found%20that,excessive%20alcohol%20use%20\(9\).](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/m7308a1.htm#:~:text=A%20recent%20study%20found%20that,excessive%20alcohol%20use%20(9).)

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Introduction

- When we consider our behavior toward alcoholic beverages, it is a serious matter
- Alcohol is a powerful and often destructive drug
- We study to see if, under any circumstances, Christians are authorized by the apostles' teaching to partake of alcoholic beverages

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Introduction

- We do not want to forbid what God permits or permit what God forbids
- Regardless of what society's thinking is, or our individual judgments, we must consider supreme what the Word of God authorizes in this and in all areas of life
- Some Christians today believe they can drink socially or at home regularly as long as they don't get drunk

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Introduction

- Others, including me, believe that Christians are forbidden to partake of alcoholic beverages except for one possible exception, medicinal reasons
- The New Testament says we are to be watchful, alert and sober at all times
- Where would alcohol fit into that picture at any time, especially for social and recreational use?

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Introduction

- Let us study the evidence from Scriptures answering arguments that would oppose what we believe that hopefully, we can find the Truth and joyously obey it
- Our use of alcohol not only affects our souls but influences others also to act in certain ways

6

We must seek to examine all we do by the Word of God

Col 3:17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

7

Some reasons why there is confusion about authority and social drinking

1. The word wine always refers to alcoholic beverages
2. Since some Biblical figures drank, it's alright for us to drink
3. There were no methods of preserving grape juice in the ancient world

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The word wine does not always mean fermented (alcoholic) wine

- Yayin, most used word often translated wine, is found about 137 times in the Old Testament, NASB translation
- Yayin is a general word describing all stages of grape juice from the cluster of grapes to fermented wine
- The context must determine how it is being used so we know what wine is meant

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Yayin (wine) is used to refer to various states of grape juice

Num 6:2 "Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When a man or woman makes a special vow, the vow of a Nazirite, to dedicate himself to the LORD,

Num 6:3 he shall abstain from wine and strong drink; he shall drink no vinegar, whether made from wine or strong drink, nor shall he drink any grape juice nor eat fresh or dried grapes.

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Yayin (wine) is used to refer to various states of grape juice

Num 6:4 'All the days of his separation he shall not eat anything that is produced by the grape vine, from the seeds even to the skin.

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Yayin (wine) is condemned and forbidden

Pro 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.

Pro 23:31 Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it goes down smoothly;

Pro 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, It is not for kings to drink wine, Or for rulers to desire strong drink,

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Yayin (wine) is condemned and forbidden

Lev 10:9 "Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you nor your sons with you, when you come into the tent of meeting, so that you will not die--it is a perpetual statute throughout your generations--

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Yayin (wine) is also called a blessing from God

Psa 104:14 He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the labor of man, So that he may bring forth food from the earth,

Psa 104:15 And wine which makes man's heart glad, So that he may make his face glisten with oil, And food which sustains man's heart.

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Yayin (wine both approved and condemned)

- Is God condemning and approving the same substance?
- Or, is He condemning strong drink that makes drunk and approving the unfermented grape juice that will not harm?

15

The word wine does not always mean fermented (alcoholic) wine

- Oinos, most used word often translated wine, is found about 33 times in the New Testament, NASB translation
- Oinos is a general word describing various stages of grape juice
- The context must determine how it is being used so we know what wine is meant

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Oinos (wine) is condemned and forbidden

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

Eph 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

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Oinos (wine) refers to unfermented grape juice approved by God

Mat 9:17 "Nor do people put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."

18

Oinos (wine both approved and condemned)

- Is God condemning and approving the same substance?
- Or, is He condemning strong drink that makes drunk and approving the unfermented grape juice that will not harm?

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Four ways unfermented wine was preserved to the next vintage

1. Boiled into a thick syrup that caused yeast to evaporate
2. Filtered yeast from the juice
3. Lowered temperature below 45° F by storing in cool place
4. Fumigated with sulfur fumes

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

- Drunkenness condemned even before the law of Moses
- Also God forbid the Jews from even looking at intoxicating wine and strong drink
- They were to avoid it completely

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

Gen 9:21 He drank of the wine and became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent.

Gen 9:22 Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside.

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

Gen 9:23 But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it upon both their shoulders and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were turned away, so that they did not see their father's nakedness.

Gen 9:24 When Noah awoke from his wine, he knew what his youngest son had done to him.

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

Pro 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.

Pro 23:29 Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes?

Pro 23:30 Those who linger long over wine, Those who go to taste mixed wine.

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

Pro 23:31 Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it goes down smoothly;

Pro 23:32 At the last it bites like a serpent And stings like a viper.

Pro 23:33 Your eyes will see strange things And your mind will utter perverse things.

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Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

Pro 23:34 And you will be like one who lies down in the middle of the sea, Or like one who lies down on the top of a mast.

Pro 23:35 "They struck me, but I did not become ill; They beat me, but I did not know it. When shall I awake? I will seek another drink."

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Are Christians Authorized To Drink Alcoholic Beverages?

1. Some reasons why there is confusion about authority and social drinking
2. The word wine does not always mean fermented (alcoholic) wine
3. Four ways unfermented wine was preserved to the next vintage
4. Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament

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Drunkenness condemned in the New Testament

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

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Drunkenness condemned in the New Testament

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

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Drunkenness condemned in the New Testament

1Co 5:9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

1Co 5:10 I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world.

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Drunkenness condemned in the New Testament

1Co 5:11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

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Drunkenness condemned in the New Testament

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

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All mind and mood altering drugs condemned by God

- The word pharmakeia, from where we get our word pharmacy is translated sorcery, one of the works of the flesh
- The word can refer to medicines with no evil intent
- The word can also refer to poisons

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All mind and mood altering drugs condemned by God

- And, the word referred to drugs associated with idolatry, witchcraft and magic arts, sorcery
- Since, in this instant, the drugs were designed to change the mood and behavior of others, we can necessarily infer that recreational use of mood and mind altering drugs today is sinful

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All mind and mood altering drugs condemned by God

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

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All mind and mood altering drugs condemned by God

Gal 5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

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At what point do we become drunk?

- Many, even some Christians, believe that we can “moderately” drink alcoholic beverages as long as we do not reach the level of being drunk
- But, exactly where is that point of consumption where we go from sober to drunk?
- Drunkenness is not a state but a process

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Where are Christians authorized to use an intoxicating substance socially?

Intoxicant

something (such as an alcoholic drink) that causes people to become excited or confused and less able to control what they say or do : an intoxicating substance

--Britannica Dictionary

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Where are Christians authorized to use an intoxicating substance socially?

- God says to be intoxicated or impaired is sinful
- We are commanded at least 6 times in the New Testament to be sober, free from intoxicants, Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words
- The first drink will relax your inhibitions so that it is easier to take another drink

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

1Th 5:6 so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

1Th 5:7 For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

1Th 5:8 But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

1Pe 4:7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

1Pe 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

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Answering passages used to authorize social or moderate drinking

- We now look at those verses proposed to show we can drink alcoholic beverage socially or what they would call moderately
- We do this to understand clearly what the Scriptures teach
- Does God permit moderate use of that which He had forbidden the Jews to look upon in Proverbs 23:31?

42

Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

Joh 2:1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;

Joh 2:2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.

Joh 2:3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus *said to Him, "They have no wine."

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Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

Joh 2:4 And Jesus *said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come."

Joh 2:5 His mother *said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

Joh 2:6 Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each.

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Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

Joh 2:7 Jesus *said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." So they filled them up to the brim.

Joh 2:8 And He *said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it to him.

45

Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

Joh 2:9 When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter *called the bridegroom,

Joh 2:10 and *said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now."

46

Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

Joh 2:11 This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

47

Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

- Whatever Jesus did manifested His glory so people would believe in Him
- It says they drank freely but was this intoxicating wine?
- If it was, Jesus became a manufacturer of and bartender for alcoholic wine
- Word oinos, wine, does not always refer to alcoholic wine

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Jesus drank wine so I can drink wine

- The headwaiter spoke about the good wine which ancient Greek authors said was the fresh pure grape juice
- Did Jesus encourage drunkenness, lead people into temptation?
- Are we to imitate Christ by providing liquor for our family and friends?
- Under the Law of Moses, the warning was not even to look at alcoholic beverages

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New wine must be put in new wine skins

Luk 5:37 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled out, and the skins will be ruined.

Luk 5:38 "But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

Luk 5:39 "And no one, after drinking old wine wishes for new; for he says, 'The old is good enough.'"

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New wine must be put in new wine skins

- If you put new wine in an old wineskin that has residue of old wine, fermentation will begin quickly
- But, if you put new wine into a new wineskin and seal it, it can be preserved for a long time without fermentation occurring
- Even if old wine is fermented, people preferred it to grape juice

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Criticism of Jesus and John the Baptist

Luk 7:31 "To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, and what are they like?"

Luk 7:32 "They are like children who sit in the market place and call to one another, and they say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'

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Criticism of Jesus and John the Baptist

Luk 7:33 "For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon!'"

Luk 7:34 "The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'"

Luk 7:35 "Yet wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

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Criticism of Jesus and John the Baptist

- Just because the Jews falsely accused Jesus does not mean that He drank alcoholic wine
- They falsely accused Him of many things about wine as well as being a blasphemer, Sabbath breaker and demon possessed
- They also said John had a demon but Jesus called him a prophet
- They unfairly criticized both Jesus and John rejecting them both

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4. Drunkenness condemned in the Old Testament
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7. We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants
8. Answering passages used to authorize social or moderate drinking

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They are full of sweet wine

Act 2:13 But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine."

Act 2:14 But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words.

Act 2:15 "For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day;

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They are full of sweet wine

(Act 2:13 NKJV) Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

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They are full of sweet wine

- Peter did not deny drinking but he just denied being drunk
- Peter also did not deny being drunk at all times of day but just spoke about the third hour of the day
- Was Peter approving of drinking and drunkenness?

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They are full of sweet wine

- No, he was addressing their mockery of saying they were drunk on possibly unfermented wine early in the morning
- Silence does not give consent for doing something

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They are full of sweet wine

- We do not authorize by silence but what the Scriptures say
- We must have a command, approved example or necessary conclusion to authorize

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.

Rom 14:2 One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:3 The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.

Rom 14:4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:5 One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind.

Rom 14:6 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

Rom 14:14 I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:15 For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

Rom 14:16 Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil;

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:18 For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

Rom 14:19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

Rom 14:20 Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

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Wine in Romans 14

Rom 14:21 It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

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Timothy restricted himself even from unfermented wine

1Ti 5:23 No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

69

Wine in Romans 14

- Romans 14 is about probably Jews but could also be Gentiles who were unnecessarily restricting themselves because of how they had been trained to believe in the past
- The matters under consideration, whether they were practiced or not, were pleasing to God

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Wine in Romans 14

- Therefore, the wine mentioned here would be unfermented wine
- The passage does not teach that God accepts those who are looser in their conscience toward the gospel
- They were being stricter than they needed to be
- Social drinking is not in Romans 14

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Deacons not addicted to much wine

1Ti 3:8 Deacons likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, (1Ti 3:8 NKJV) Likewise deacons *must be* reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money,

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Overseers not addicted to wine

1Ti 3:2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

1Ti 3:3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.

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Overseers deacons and wine

- Is it alright for deacons and other Christians to have some wine, even alcoholic wine?
- In verses 3 and 8, different Greek words to describe the same thing, do not be addicted to much wine
- Forbidding excess of wine does not authorize moderate use of it

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Forbidding excess does not authorize moderate use

Jas 1:21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

75

Do not get drunk with wine

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

76

Do not get drunk with wine

- Paul condemns drunkenness but not moderate drinking
- Cannot authorize moderate by forbidding the extreme
- If we should not pay attention to or look upon alcoholic beverages, are we to think God authorizes us to drink it socially?

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Are Christians Authorized To Drink Alcoholic Beverages?

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2. The word wine does not always mean fermented (alcoholic) wine
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8. Answering passages used to authorize social or moderate drinking

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Is Paul approving social drinking at home?

1Co 11:20 Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, 1Co 11:21 for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

1Co 11:22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

80

Is Paul approving social drinking at home?

- They were using the Lord's Supper to accommodate a common meal
- They had abuses in their assembly including excluding brethren from the Lord's Supper and not examining their own conduct as they partook of the Supper
- Paul commands them to eat their common meals at home

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Is Paul approving social drinking at home?

- Some argue that in verse 21 if some were drunk, they must have had intoxicating wine in the assembly
- And, they are to drink at home but in moderation, not getting drunk
- The condemning of the extreme, drunkenness, does not authorize the "moderate", social drinking

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Forbidding excess does not authorize moderate use

Jas 1:21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

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Is Paul approving social drinking at home?

- Even if some were intoxicated by wine in the assembly, this passage would not authorize, by command, approved example or necessary conclusion, social drinking at home or anywhere else
- The Greek word for drunk does not always mean intoxicated

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Is Paul approving social drinking at home?

- In most cases it means drunkenness but it also can be applied to being satisfied or full without reference to intoxication
- In the Septuagint, Greek translation of the Old Testament, we find translations of the word where it does not refer to intoxication
- In 1Co 11:21, hungry is contrasted with drunk

85

Methoo (G3184) does not always mean intoxicated

Isa 34:5 For My sword is satiated in heaven, Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.

Eze 39:19 "So you will eat fat until you are glutted, and drink blood until you are drunk, from My sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

86

Methoo (G3184) does not always mean intoxicated

Isa 58:11 "And the LORD will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorched places, And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail.

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Hungry contrasted with drunk

1Co 11:21 for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

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The New Testament authorizes a little wine

1Ti 5:22 Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.

1Ti 5:23 No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

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The New Testament authorizes a little wine

1Ti 3:15 but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

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The New Testament authorizes a little wine

- Is alcoholic wine necessarily implied here?
- Wine, oinos, can refer to grape juice or fermented alcoholic wine
- They had fresh springs and wells for fresh water
- Timothy drank only water
- Paul commands to drink a little wine for his health not social drinking or any other situation

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The New Testament authorizes a little wine

- Specific authority here limits the general authority
- Taking a little wine, even if it is alcoholic wine, is for health concerns only
- No matter what, no one can absolutely say for sure that this wine was alcoholic
- All health benefits can be gained from grape juice rather than alcoholic wine

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

- Some say the New Testament does not say we should not drink alcohol, therefore we can drink it
- But in at least 5 passages and possibly more, we are told to be sober, Greek word G3525, nepho, meaning among other things, be free from the influence of intoxicants

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

- Strong says this word means to abstain from wine
- Thayer says to be calm and collected in spirit
- Vine says it signifies to be free from the influence of intoxicants
- We cannot be sober and drink socially or recreationally
- Social drinking is the process of drunkenness

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

2Ti 4:5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

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We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants

1Th 5:6 so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

1Th 5:7 For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

1Th 5:8 But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

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**We are commanded to be sober,
free from intoxicants**

1Pe 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

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**We are commanded to be sober,
free from intoxicants**

1Pe 4:7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

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**We are commanded to be sober,
free from intoxicants**

1Pe 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

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**The New Testament forbids social
drinking**

Rom 13:12 The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Rom 13:13 Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

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**The New Testament forbids social
drinking**

Rom 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

101

**The New Testament forbids social
drinking**

1Pe 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

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The New Testament forbids social drinking

1Pe 4:3 For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.

1Pe 4:4 In all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you;

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The New Testament forbids social drinking

- Drinking parties refers to social gatherings where alcoholic beverages are served
- The other two words, carousing and drunkenness, refer to more excessive stages of drinking
- We are to avoid all stages of drinking alcohol

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8. Answering passages used to authorize social or moderate drinking
9. We are commanded to be sober, free from intoxicants
10. The New Testament forbids social drinking

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