

WINE

Ok Today, We are going to talk about wine, oh la la, the Blood of the Grape! There is a lot of Unbiblical information out there that needs to be hammered home. Being **Bible Believing Baptists**, and I stress the **Bible Believing**, we must fall back to our tried and true Rules of Bible Study, Rule #1 Read what it says. Rule # 2 Determine the Context, Rule #3 Believe what it says. Now today I am going to Challenge a Common Baptist misconception, not often do we Bible Believing Baptist have misconceptions, because after all, we all read our Bibles and Rightly divide the **word right?????? Of Course.**

So Myth number one today is; That Jesus Didn't Drink wine....This is false contrary to the teaching of many Baptist Preachers and even Baptist Doctrine. So we need a little Wisdom on the subject so where in the Bible do we go get wisdom???......Proverbs Correct? turn to;

Proverbs 20:1

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is **deceived thereby is not wise.**

- To mock means to scorn, So when you drink, you become scornful.
- Notice carefully it states whosoever is **deceived by it** is not wise.....deception...so that begs the question what if you are not deceived by it?

Proverbs 23:19-21

¹⁹Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way. ²⁰Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: ²¹**for the drunkard** and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

- So God's Advice to mankind is **that being a Drunkard**, will bring you to poverty.
- What is a Drunkard? Someone who drinks....**To Excess.**
- **Let's see what else Proverbs has to say.**

Proverbs 31:1-9

¹The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him. ²What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows? ³Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings. ⁴It is not for kings, O Lemuel, **it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:** ⁵**lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.** ⁶Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. ⁷Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more. ⁸Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. ⁹Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

- Notice What Lemuel's mother taught him, **it is not for kings to drink wine.**
- **Nor princes strong wine?** Is there any reason why this matriarch would give such advice?
- ⁵**lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted....**ah so there we have it cause and effect, if you drink wine, and as seem before especially if you drink wine to excess it will lead you to forget the law, it will lead you to pervert Judgement...
- So no one should drink wine is that what Mother says?
- **Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.** ⁷**Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.**
- **So we see that per scripture there are occasions prescribed for drinking wine!**
 - 1) **Him that is ready to perish**, a dieing man on his death bed.
 - 2) **those that be of heavy hearts...**Somebody who is depressed! How about that!
 - 3) **The poor! Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.**
- Wow, I wonder if the Puritan or Fundamentalist Preacher has ever actually read their Bible....
- Not to be disrespectful but the Baptist will drag you to Ephesians.....See,

Ephesians 5:18-20

¹⁸ And be **not drunk with wine, wherein is excess**; but be filled with the Spirit; ¹⁹ speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

- So now we have confirmation, we have two Scriptures that tell **us not to be Drunkards**, because it leads to poverty and it is excess...
- But, But Does that mean we shouldn't drink wine? We see in Proverbs 31, there are at least 3 conditions in which drinking wine is permitted, yeah encouraged.
- Furthermore, Does it mean that Jesus Christ Never Drank wine???????
- How about we go to Jesus's first recorded Miracle in the Bible.
- Ok Here we go are you ready, let's read what it says.....nothing like a dime store bible to clear up a doctrinal mess.

John 2:1-10

¹ And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: ² and both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. ³ And when they **wanted wine**, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, **They have no wine**.

- If this was the first thing you read out of the Bible, wouldn't you find it kind of Quizzical? What is Jesus's Mom telling him, they have no wine?...As if it is important? Extremely Important....let's keep reading.

⁴ Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

- At this point in the Scriptures we see that Mary knows that Jesus isn't just any other person, furthermore we see that Jesus Admonishes, in a fatherly mocking tone, its actually kind of funny when you think about it...he says... **Woman, what have I to do with thee?** Is that the way you address your Mother.....**Woman**.....He is mocking, he is having fun with her can you just imagine the look on her face, I am sure Jesus got the Motherly look of scorn.... Verse 5

⁵ His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

- It's pretty Clear that Mary knows that Jesus will rectify the Situation...
- Notice, a Wedding an Ordinance instituted by God, how does he respond to Honor the Marriage and all the Guests, all the People????

⁶ And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.

- How Much is a Firkin? One Firkin is Nine Gallons, so each Pot had 3 Firkins or 27 Gallons of Wine in it. And there are 6 of them, so 162 gallons total.....

⁷ Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. ⁹ When the ruler of the feast had tasted **the water that was made wine**, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, ¹⁰ and saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.

- So My First Question to you all, Did Jesus Ever sin in his incarnate form? **NOOOOOOOOOO**, because if he sinned he wouldn't have been able to be the perfect Sacrifice, Right?
- **So Jesus aided and abetted Mankind by providing them with Wine**, 162 gallons of it! So was it a Sin for these people at a Wedding to Drink wine?.....**No!** Else Jesus would Not have provided it.....And He was Sinless....Duuuuuhhhh...So Drinking wine at a wedding isn't a sin!
- And Notice it wasn't Just Mad Dog 20/20...some of you out there are going how does he know what that is.....I didn't always preach.....**It's the best of the Best! ...but thou hast kept the good wine until now....**

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- So Jesus Shows That Drinking wine At a Wedding is Acceptable, so acceptable, that it is extremely important, so important, **That he himself provided sufficient top of the Line product!**
- Oh and it wasn't non-alcoholic New Wine, because if it were why would the Steward say **"Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."** You see after a few belts of wine the heart gets merry and dulls the taste buds because it contains alcohol!
- So WINE contains Alcohol by the Biblical Definition in this context.....Those poor Puritan and Fundamentalist Baptist Preachers are spinnin' in their grave!

Yeah but this doesn't answer if Jesus Drank wine, well he provided 162 gallons to a wedding party, can you honestly tell me he didn't have one sip???? He made it.... Well that's making an assumption...Ok Ok fair enough lets go back to Scripture, remember were Bible Believers, let's read the word of God.

- But hey before we go can we all agree that is Jesus Gave this party wine , that at the very least for a wedding Drinking wine is acceptable.....
- So we have at least one exception, to the Baptist tea totaling ways...Yes Bible Believing Baptists its Acceptable to have Wine at a wedding!

Let's be diligent and search the scripture some more to see if there is an Overt answer to our Question About Jesus Drinking wine, other than trying to infer it. Turn to Mathew

Matthew 11:19

The Son of man came **eating and drinking**, and they say, Behold a man **gluttonous, and a winebibber**, a friend of **publicans and sinners**.....

- So this is out of Jesus's own lips, He states what he is being accused of by the Pharisee....He came as The Son of Man Eating and Drinking.....Drinking what? Well water right...would you accuse someone of being a winebibber if they drank just water? Of course not someone must have witnessed him drink wine and makes the accusation! Well you know that's him speaking metaphorically...was he being metaphorical about publicans and sinners too? Maybe we should ask Mathew.....the Publican.....really how about in Luke.

Luke 7:34

The Son of man is come **eating and drinking**; and ye say, Behold a **gluttonous man, and a winebibber**, a friend of **publicans and sinners**!

- You see there it is in Black and White, Don't confuses Fundamentalist Baptists with the Truth it only makes them angry...That's why we are Bible Believers... Because Not Only do we read what it says, we **Understand the Context** and we **Believe What it says**, Very hard for our Institutionally Trained Baptist Preachers.....makes you wonder why they call it an institution....

So let us Rehash what we know so far

1. Proverbs and Ephesians tells us **Not to be Drunkard's or drinking to excess**....
2. Proverbs 31 tells us of 3 specific people groups who can drink wine, and two that shouldn't for a specific reason.
3. John Tells Us that Jesus Provided Wine, 162 gallons to a Wedding Party of which **he was part!**
4. Mathew and Luke tell us, that out of Jesus's own lips he drank wine, because he was accused of being a winebibber!

Ok so let's move on, Now your going to tell me that it was New Wine and had no alcohol in it because everyone knows that New Wine is non-alcoholic.....Oh really is that true??? Let's consult this dime store bible again.....but wait.

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- How about a little bit of Basic Agriculture, A Grape has on the Outside of it a dull white coating, that coating for you non- farmer types is **Yeast....yes spiritually, Yeast can be inferred as sin.**
- When you crush a Grape and make Grape Juice the yeast mixes with the inside juice of the Grape, if you let it sit for to long the yeast reacts with the sugar and converts it to alcoholic...
- Ok now some basic Chemistry, Yeast is a Fungi, it reacts with the sugar of the Juice to create Alcohol, left alone it the reaction **will self-limit until the alcohol content is about 10-13%** very rarely you can get a special yeast that may last up to 20%. Now a Bi-Product of fermentation is CO₂, as the yeast breaks down the sugar into alcohol CO₂ is generated.
- So much for the Chemistry and agriculture lesson, is this consistent with the Bible? Do the writers of scripture know this did God reveal this forbidden knowledge.....

Matthew 9:17

Neither do men put **new wine** into old bottles: **else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out**, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

Mark 2:22

And no man putteth **new wine** into old bottles: else the **new wine** doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but **new wine** must be put into new bottles.

Luke 5:37

And no man putteth **new wine** into old bottles; else the **new wine** will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish.

- So Three Witnesses in Scripture tells Us, that if you put **New Wine, Grape Juice** into old Bottles they will break.....why Chemistry!!!! The Sealed Bottle with CO₂ build up will burst the Bottle.
- You need to remember a bottle in Christ's time is more like a Greek Amphora made out of Clay they will not tolerate a lot of pressure build up, apparently fresh green bottles can tolerate one Pressure Cycle, this is a properties of materials discussion out of the scope of this lecture.
- Pressure vessels, ie bottles of today are designed for and to certain pressure standards, not so in the day, if you don't believe me next time take a look at a Champagne bottle, a bottle designed to Hold Pressure, look at the bottom it has a conical section.
- So why is this important???

Because it is Possible to Get Drunk on New Wine! Heresy you say, Turn to:

Acts 2:12-15

¹² And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this? ¹³ Others mocking said, **These men are full of new wine.** ¹⁴ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judæa, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: ¹⁵ **for these are not drunken, as ye suppose**, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

- You see it, When the Apostles were speaking in tongues they were accused of being **Drunk**, Specifically drinking **NEW Wine!**
- Ok Mr. Baptist now your in a Corner....tough to Argue with the Script that you yourself claim is infallible word of God, from the Authorized Version even! Drinking wine shocking!
- So it turns out the Level of Alcohol is **directly proportional** to the time the **New Wine** is in the Bottle up until 10-13% by volume!
- It takes only 2-3 weeks to complete the fermentation cycle to make wine!
- So why so much song and dance you ask? When did Jesus enjoy the Last Supper? March-April-ish, when is the Grape harvesting Season in Israel? **June thru September.** So Let's Follow along

kids, if Jesus Had wine for the Last supper did it have alcohol or not? If it was bottled at the latest in September....there is more than sufficient time to complete the 3 week fermentation time before March.....??? Stop clutching your chest, Christianity is a thinking mans religion.

- Heresy, heresy....Yeah that's right folks Jesus had **real wine** at the Last supper not grape Juice!
- The question is Do you believe what it says?

Luke 22:17-19

¹⁷ And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: ¹⁸ for I say unto you, **I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.** ¹⁹ And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

- Ok well it says fruit of the vine, not wine, true fact. So could it have been grape juice? In order for it to have been grape juice two of the following conditions would have to have been met.
 - 1) They would have had to receive imported grapes (not the season for grapes in Israel at this time), this is not likely as they the transportation network could not have moved the grapes to Israel before they spoiled.
 - 2) The fresh squeezed grape juice would have to have been boiled (pasteurized) and then placed into bottles (you have to kill the yeast) to maintain juice, this is a possibility but it is not consistent with the scripture.
- Now we get to Jesus on the Cross he refuses the wine mixed with myrrh and also the vinegar, but in another account he drinks the vinegar....what's up with this?
- In Luke he makes **the vow, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.....**So from this point forward he says he will not drink of the fruit of the vine. Wine Vinegar would be included in this because it is a product of the vine.

Matthew 27:33-34

³³ And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, ³⁴ they gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

- Gall is a narcotic to deaden the pain, it could have been why he refused the drink or it could have been because it was fruit of the vine, vinegar made from wine.....two possible reasons for his refusal.

John 19:29-30

²⁹ Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. ³⁰ **When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar,** he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

- So in this instance Jesus Drank the vinegar! Did he violate his vow? Not so. You see vinegar can be made out of something other than grape wine.
- Apple Cider Vinegar, the Roman soldiers drank something called Posca, a watered down vinegar which can be made with Apple Cider Vinegar....ahhh See so Jesus Didn't violate his oath!
- So it is clearly possible by scripture that Jesus Drank wine and also maintained his vow of not drinking wine from the last supper on....nothing like that Dime Store Bible to clear up a doctrinal misunderstanding.
- Before we Go I am Going to leave you some New Testament Admonitions About wine...

WINE

1 Timothy 5:23

Drink no longer water, but use a **little wine** for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

- It is true that Paul instructed timothy to have a little wine for his infirmities. Wine can be used in a medicinal way

Ephesians 5:18

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

- It is also True that he instructed us to not be drunk, in case that thought crossed your mind. Drinking to Excess is a serious breach of Christian ethics and should never be done.

1 Peter 4:3

For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, **excess of wine**, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

- Excess of Wine is a Highlight of many of our Past lives Not our walk with God!

Titus 1:7

For a **bishop** must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, **not given to wine**, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

- Not given to wine, it doesn't say you can't drink, anytime you give yourself to anything your committed.

1 Timothy 3:2-3

² A **bishop** then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; ³ **not given to wine**, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

- A Bishop should not be given to wine, do not give yourself to wine

1 Timothy 3:8

Likewise must the **deacons be grave**, not doubletongued, **not given to much wine**, not greedy of filthy lucre;

- Deacons Must be in control of their liquor consumption, notice to much wine, excess consumption leads to issues.

Titus 2:3

The **aged women** likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, **not given to much wine**, teachers of good things;

- Aged Women Must be Good Examples! Again Excess wine, doesn't say you can't drink, but to Much!

Romans 14:21

It is good neither to eat flesh, **nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.**

- **So, A Christian Must be on his Guard Always with the sake of Wine Consumption, being careful not to cause any to stumble.....**

So once again we have proved the old adage, "What scares a puritan the most? ...That Someone Somewhere is having a good time!" Slaughter that Sacred cow Live in Faith.....