

MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship This Sunday

August 23, 2020 ~ 9:00 AM

In our Sanctuary (please wear a mask)

or

Outside Parking Area

Services on YouTube

meadowbrookbaptist.cc

Alcohol

"You should decide never to do anything that will make your brother stumble or fall into sin...(Romans 14:13) / The right thing to do is not to eat meat (probably meat offered to idols), or DRINK WINE or do anything else that will make you brother fall." (Romans 14:21)

As a new Christian in my early 20's, I believed drunkenness was wrong, but I saw no harm in drinking beer in moderation. And I found no command from God to abstain from all alcohol.

I was a Scout Leader and one day some of my boys came to my apartment, saw some beer cans and said, "Mr. Bob, we didn't know you drank." The Holy Spirit got me to thinking about my influence on those boys. I thought, "I might be able to control my drinking, but I might also influence those who could not be able to do it.

One day I read this passage and felt like God wanted me to give it up for the sake of others, and I did. Paul said this is a matter between a Christian and God (Romans 14:22). He also said if a person has doubts about something being right or wrong and goes against what he believes, then doing it is wrong for him or her (Romans 14:23).

I do not believe things like drinking beer in moderation is a "sin" until God tells us it is. This has lost me some friends and has gotten me in trouble as a Pastor, but I still believe it. I don't condemn those who do, but I stand by what Robertson McQuilkin says, "Because of the potent dangers of alcohol to us and to others and because of our need to rightly influence people; I cannot, for the life of me, think of one good reason to drink." Thomas Edison had another good reason. He said:

"I don't put anything in my mouth,
that will destroy my brain."

For years I had a friend in my church who would say "Preacher, there is nothing wrong with drinking a beer." And I would reply, "I didn't say there was."

But after he retired, he came down the aisle and said, "Bob you were right. I just found out that my wife is a closet alcoholic and I'm the one who started her drinking. We poured all our beer down the sink last night."

"New Life for You in Christ"

By Bob Marcaurelle

**Pastor: Haddock Baptist Church
The Jones County News, 1968**

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

"No one has ever seen God. The uniquely begotten Son, who is at the Father's side, He has made Him known." (John 1:18)

Dwight L. Moody tells the story of a newspaper reporter who passed by a department store window during the Christmas season. Standing in front of the window filled with toys, were three small girls. Two of them were trying to explain the beautiful scene to the third little girl who was blind.

John says no one has ever seen God. With all of our knowledge, we cannot actually see Him because He "is Spirit" (John 3). We are like soldiers on guard duty who hear a sound in the darkness and say, "Who goes there?"

When the Russian cosmonaut returned to earth, he said he had looked hard, but did not see God and the atheists laughed. W.A. Criswell said, "All he had to do was *open the door.*"

God reveals himself and the clearest revelation is in Jesus. Hebrews 1:1-3 says Jesus is the "outshining of the inner glory of God". God revealed himself to Israel as the brilliant "glory" that went with them through the wilderness years (Deuteronomy 5:24).

God reveals himself in John 1:1, in mystery. Like Genesis 1:1, John introduces Him without argument and says, "In the beginning, God". This makes us face the mystery of who made God.

We have no trouble believing in His existence. It is natural. A communist schoolgirl's test asked one question, "What is inscribed on Lenin's tomb?" She put, "Religion is the Opiate of the