



# Are you smarter than God?



## The Bible and alcohol

What do the Scriptures  
teach about drinking?

# Understanding The Meaning Of Wine

- Grape juice (Mark 2:22)
- Fermented/alcoholic (Ephesians 5:18)
- Consider how we use the word “drunk”
  - How much milk have you drunk?
  - That man is drunk.



# Understanding The Meaning Of Wine

- Today's wines are often 11-13% alcohol
- Bible times wine was generally 8%, but by law was diluted with water, often 4:1 (4 parts water:1 part wine)
- This difference helps explain Peter's statement in Acts 2:15



**What would you tell your  
child about drinking?**



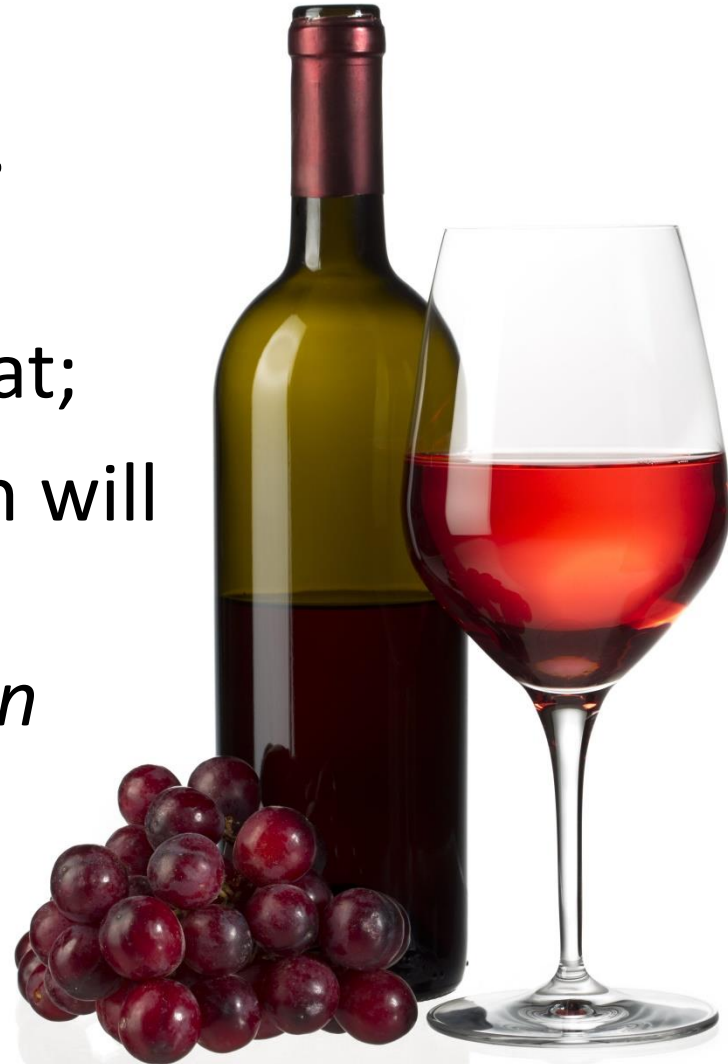
# Proverbs 20:1

Wine *is* a mocker,  
Strong drink *is* a brawler,  
And whoever is led astray by it is not  
wise.



## Proverbs 23:19-21

Hear, my son, and be wise;  
And guide your heart in the way.  
Do not mix with winebibbers,  
*Or* with gluttonous eaters of meat;  
For the drunkard and the glutton will  
come to poverty,  
And drowsiness will clothe *a man*  
with rags.



# Proverbs 23:29-35

Who has woe?

Who has sorrow?

Who has contentions?

Who has complaints?

Who has wounds without cause?

Who has redness of eyes?

Those who linger long at the wine,

Those who go in search of mixed  
wine.

(Vs.29-30)





## Proverbs 23:29-35

Do not look on the wine when it is  
red, When it sparkles in the cup,  
*When* it swirls around smoothly;  
At the last it bites like a serpent,  
And stings like a viper.

Your eyes will see strange things,  
And your heart will utter perverse  
things.

(Vs.31-33)



## Proverbs 23:29-35

Yes, you will be like one who lies  
down in the midst of the sea,  
Or like one who lies at the top of the  
mast, *saying:*

“They have struck me, *but* I was not  
hurt;

They have beaten me, but I did not  
feel *it*.

When shall I awake, that I may  
seek another *drink?*”

(Vs.34-35)



## Proverbs 31:4-7

*It is not for kings, O Lemuel,  
It is not for kings to drink wine,  
Nor for princes intoxicating drink;  
Lest they drink and forget the law,  
And pervert the justice of all the  
afflicted.*

Give strong drink to him who is  
perishing, And wine to those who  
are bitter of heart. Let him drink  
and forget his poverty, And  
remember his misery no more.



# Good People Making Bad Choices

- Noah got drunk and naked (Gen 9)
- Lot's daughters got him drunk to have sexual relations with him (Gen 19)
- Nadab & Abihu's unlawful offering (Leviticus 10)



# But, Jesus Turned Water Into Wine

John 2:1-11

- The wedding guests had already drunk a lot (V.10)
- Jesus changed  $\pm 150$  gallons (V.6)
  - 150 gallons = 750 modern bottles
  - 750 bottles = 62.5 standard cases
- If this is equivalent to modern alcoholic wine, then quite simply, Jesus is not just approving of drinking, but of getting s-t-u-p-i-d drunk!



# Christian Consumption

- ✓ Medicinal purposes (I Timothy 5:23)
- ✓ How much is okay? (I Cor 6:9-10)
- ✓ Be sober (I Thes 5:6-8; II Tim 4:5; I Peter 1:13; 4:7; 5:8)
- ✓ Filled with what? (Eph 5:18)



