



Shield of Faith Christian Center
Tuesday Night Bible Study



DECEIVED BY WINE!

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.” (Proverbs 20:1)

Introduction



A. Have you ever been deceived by someone – had them persuade you of something that wasn't actually true? In Proverbs 20:31, the text scripture speaks of being “deceived” by wine. Is it possible that wine actually deceives people, tricks them into thinking that it is harmless, fun and safe for Christians? Satan is presently trying to deceive weak Christians in the Body of Christ telling them that wine is not sinful, seeking to make them into lukewarm, carnal, worldly alcoholics.

B. DECEPTION is Satan's constant practice! He is a liar and the father of lies, according to scripture. He constantly acts as if sinful things won't do any damage to mankind. Satan attempts to rationalize the *harmlessness* of sin. He seeks to focus our minds on the *pleasure* of any sinful experience while attempting to hide the price or cost of sinful behavior.

In Genesis 3:4-6 Satan focused Eve's attention on how delicious the forbidden fruit would be, and promised her that there would be no negative outcome from sinning. He persuaded her that there would be no penalty for sin, and she believed him. To this day, Satan continues the same tactic of emphasizing pleasure and masking the devastating consequences of sin. And just as he deceived Eve about the tree, so satan attempts to deceive Christians about **WINE!**



Examining the Scripture - Proverbs 20:1

God says in Prov. 20, verse 1 that wine **MOCKS** you! To be *mocked* means, “to be embarrassed; to be made fun of; to be humiliated, taunted or teased.” That's what wine does to a person. It destroys their dignity and self-respect. It humiliates the user.

Further, God says that “strong drink is **RAGING!**” That means that it attacks you – that it is vicious, damaging and destructive, like a person who is out to hurt you!

In addition, the scripture says that wine will DECEIVE anyone who is **not WISE!** A foolish person can easily be tricked into thinking that wine is cool or chic and that it won't become a habit. All alcoholics began by thinking that they could easily handle wine, but only too late did they discover that they had been deceived. Many are on Skid Row or in Alcoholics Anonymous programs because wine deceived them and took control of their lives.



More Scripture – Proverbs 23:29-35

Proverbs 23:29-35 also gives a horrific picture of what wine does to a person

Verse 29 says that wine will produce - Woe, sorrow, fights, foolish chatter, injuries, red eyes

Verse 30 says that wine makes drunkards

Verse 31 says, “don’t be impressed by wine. Don’t play around with something so dangerous”

Verse 32 says, “At the end it will KILL you, literally.” It will bite like a poisonous snake and sting like a poisonous scorpion. It produces Cirrhosis of the liver. It places men and women on Skid Row.

Verse 33 says, “it produces sexual immorality and loss of moral control.” It produces foolish talk (literally, “perverse things”)

Verse 34 says, “it makes you stagger like a man walking on a ship”

Verse 35 says, “a drunkard won’t even know how he got injured and **as soon as he is sober he will go right back to it again!**” Alcohol becomes a terrible addiction for many people, and they can’t stop even though it’s destroying their lives. THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN **DECEIVED** BY WINE.



More Scripture – Ephesians 5:18

In Ephesians 5:18, God tells us, “Be not drunk with WINE wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.” We are to receive peace, joy and relaxation by being filled with God’s Holy Spirit and by prayer and meditation and time spent in the presence of the Lord Himself. **No child of God will ever need wine to relax if he or she knows how to spend time with Jesus.** “In his presence is the fullness of joy!”



More Scripture – I Corinthians 6:9-11

In this passage God tells us in no uncertain terms that **DRUNKARDS** ARE GOING TO HELL!

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not **deceived:** neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (10) Nor thieves, nor covetousness, **nor drunkards,** nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (11) And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

(I Corinthians 6:6-11)

Some who are being deceived by wine tell themselves, “I won’t become a drunkard. I’ll just take a little sip and I can control myself.” THAT’S exactly how all drunkards began – AND NOW MANY HAVE COMPLETELY LOST CONTROL AND CANNOT STOP. Why take that chance?

ONE SATANIC STEP AT A TIME – We know that Satan works *incrementally*, little step by little step, leading souls to eternal damnation and everlasting destruction. In California now, the devil is seeking to pass **Proposition 19** which will legalize marijuana in the state – because Satan (and everyone else) knows that marijuana is the gateway drug to coke, meth, heroin and every other kind of drug that he has people trapped in today! And for many people, just a sip of wine is the first step down a long dangerous road to alcohol addiction and a loss of their eternal soul!



Final Scripture Passage – I Timothy 5:23

Some carnal Christians who want to use alcohol point to the scripture in I Timothy 5:23 where Paul writes to Timothy about the use of wine. But this scripture is in fact a strong and convincing argument *against* the use of wine among the saints of God. Notice that he tells Timothy to use a “little wine,” but he is only prescribing it for medicinal purposes, as a *treatment* because of Timothy’s stomach problems and his frequent sicknesses of the stomach. This lets us know that Timothy and the saints did NOT use wine on a regular basis or Paul would not have had to prescribe this use to him. If they drank wine all the time Paul would not have needed to say, “drink a little wine.” **He is not telling Timothy to use it because it tastes good, or because it will help you relax with your friends!**

Anyone who argues that, “I simply like the *taste*” should be immediately referred to NON-ALCOHOLIC GRAPE JUICE, which tastes a lot like wine and should easily satisfy that urge without exposing one of God’s children to the danger of alcohol addiction. High quality grape juice tastes a lot like wine!

The REAL Appeal of Wine for Carnal Saints

The painful truth is that Satan simply wants to **TEMPT THE SAINTS TO WORLDLINESS** for its own sake. There is a rebellious and sinful nature in all of us (read Romans 7) which must constantly be watched and kept under subjection! There is a sinful, rebellious, willfulness in us that constantly tempts us to push the envelope and test the boundaries of righteousness. From childhood we all enjoyed “being bad” but once we came to know Christ we repented and began to master our inner wickedness to the glory of God. The present push for wine-drinking among believers is just an expression of that unconquered sin nature in the hearts of some carnal Christian. It must be recognized, exposed and rebuked if the Body of Christ is to continue to stand for righteousness, sanctification and separation from the world of the ungodly.



Some who are not prayerful and faithful to worship and to studying the scripture simply *want to be like the world!* They want to drink because the unsaved world around them drinks! This is a time for repentance and sincere turning back to God – as we draw closer to the coming of the Lord. This is not time to be DECEIVED by worldly desires or fascinated by worldly behavior. Walking “close to the line” will eventually push you over the line in most things. We should be in the process of drawing AWAY from the world, not leaning towards it!

Neither priests, kings nor Nazarites were allowed to drink wine in the God-given lifestyle of the Old Testament



- **It was not for Priests** - Leviticus 10:8-11 And the Lord spake unto Aaron, saying (9) Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout our generations: (10) And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean: (11) And that ye may teach the child of Israel all the statutes which the Lord hath spoken unto them by the hand of Moses.
- **It was not for Kings** – Proverbs 31:4-7 It 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; (6) 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.

Revelation 5:10 tells us that we have been made “kings and priests unto God.” As such it is entirely wrong for us to drink wine or use strong drink in any form. Our bodies are the “temple of the Holy Ghost,” and we are to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

Remember what deception can do to a man or woman of God. King David was deceived BY SEX – (Satan uses different vices at different times.) David thought about the pleasure of having sex with another man’s wife, but he did not think about the devastating consequences that would come from it. The high price of David’s sin caused the following things -

Adultery	Lying to the Nation	Bathsheba’s Unwed pregnancy	Uriah’s Murder	
The baby’s death	Conspiracy with Joab	David’s Mental anguish	David’s sickness	
Absalom’s Rebellion	Absalom’s Death	Tamar’s rape	Amon’s murder	Wives defiled

Because King David was DECEIVED by lust, all these horrible things happened in his life.

Conclusion



Good research shows that there were some 16 different levels of alcoholic content in the drink that was called “wine” in Jesus day – ranging from NO alcohol to the strongest alcoholic levels imaginable. **We don’t know WHAT alcohol content was in the “wine” that Jesus made at the Wedding in Cana.** In those days they used some drinks with small alcoholic content because they had no refrigeration and at times their water was unsafe. But the bible is more than clear about the dangers of wine in the scriptures we have already used, and in those listed below: Genesis 9:20-22; Proverbs 23:20-21, Isaiah 5:11-14; Isaiah 28:7 and St. Matthew 24:49. **For all of the reasons stated above, we at Shield of Faith have agreed that we will not drink wine or use alcohol in any form as an expression of our freedom in Christ Jesus! We are free not to drink wine or to be mastered by alcohol! Maranatha!**