

## Drunkness/Wine as Defined in the Bible

Cinnamon Study #306

Written By: Mary Obasi

November 2025



My whole life, in or out of the church, I have heard people say that the Bible strictly forbids drinking. Some, actually most church sects, such as LDS, Seventh Day Adventists, Baptists, Pentecostal's and alike prohibit alcohol completely. Some members of these churches even go as far as not attending weddings or parties where alcohol is present. I myself had several members of the LDS faith attend my wedding, only to find out that they can only attend the ceremony, but not the reception because alcohol was available at the bar (Alcohol was optional to those who would want to indulge.) I found this amusing considering the fact that if these same people go to one of their favorite restaurants where alcohol is also optional to order, those rules didn't seem to apply. Hypocrisy is everywhere if we adhere to a false doctrine such as this. Now this study certainly does not condone heavy drinking or addictions, so let us recall a verse to put it simply:

“*All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.*”

**1 Corinthians 6:12 KJV**

For the main part of the study we are going to focus on the word **drunkness**. When we discuss this word we naturally are going to discuss the word **wine**. With that being said, a study on the word wine will likely be a separate continuation of this study.

So what is a drunkard or to be drunken with wine or strong drink in the Bible?

**Drunkards are those who believe nothing but what they apprehend.** It describes a person who is *rich of their own opinion*, their own understanding, their own ideas or perceptions and with these perceptions, they search out the mysteries of scripture and fall into error because he/she reads the scriptures with the lenses of his/her own perceptions and preferences of ones self because that is all man has without the Holy Spirit. It is impossible for a man to think divinely without the Holy Spirit as much as it is for a camel to walk through the eye of a needle. (Matthew 19:24) When a man is rich towards himself, it means that he walks without God and leans on his *own understanding* and his own way,

rather than the narrow way and the understanding and knowledge from the Lord, which is the Holy Spirit, which is truth.

In order to receive the mysteries of God and unveil the Scriptures, one must have faith. Unfortunately we live in a time where the common church goer does not know the definition of faith. So, for those of you who have never been taught what faith is, but you think you have an idea of what faith is, here is a brief description of what faith actually is before we continue:

A believer does not acquire faith. A believer is given faith, because as defined, faith is

Faith (4102/*pistis*) is always a *gift from God*, and *never* something that can be produced by people. In short, 4102/*pistis* ("faith") for the believer is "God's *divine persuasion*" – and therefore distinct from human belief (confidence), yet involving it. The Lord continuously *births faith* in the yielded believer so they can know what He prefers, i.e. the *persuasion of His will* (1 Jn 5:4).

In Scripture, faith is God's warranty, certifying that the revelation He in-birthed will come to pass (*His way*).

Faith is also used *collectively* – of all the times God has revealed (given the *persuasion* of) His will, which includes the full *revelation of Scripture* (Jude 3). Indeed, God the Lord *guarantees* that all of this revelation will come to pass! (Compare Mt 5:18 with 2 Tim 3:16.)

1. The root of 4102/*pistis* ("faith") is 3982/*peithô* ("to persuade, be persuaded") which supplies the *core-meaning* of faith ("*divine persuasion*"). It is God's warranty that guarantees the fulfillment of the revelation He births within the receptive believer (cf. 1 Jn 5:4 with Heb 11:1).

Faith is always *received from God*, and *never* generated by us.

**Romans 12:3: "For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith"**

**Ephesians 2:8-9: "For by grace you have been saved through *faith* and that not of yourselves, it is *the gift of God*; 9not as a result of works, so that no one may boast"**

Faith is *only* (exclusively) given to *the redeemed*. It is *not* a virtue that can be worked up by human effort. (Refer to my study of Jeremiah 10:3-4)

***More on what faith is . . . and isn't:***

1. In Scripture, *faith* and *belief* are not exactly the same. Faith always comes from God and involves His revelation therefore *faith is beyond belief!*
2. Faith *is* God's work; faith is *never* the work of people. We cannot produce faith ourselves, nor can we "drum it up at will." Rather, faith comes as Christ speaks His *rhçma*-word within (see Ro 10:17, Gk text).
3. In all of Scripture, only the term *faith* is ever used in the following way: Ro 14:23: Whatever is not of *faith* (4102/*pistis*) is *sin*." Heb 11:6: "And *without faith* (4102/*pistis*) *it is impossible to please Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him"

Those who are not in faith therefore reason the scriptures amongst themselves if the Word be true, and if it is not, they reject it in their hearts, figure out explanations for the verses they don't agree with or understand and object to them, thus rendering them in the same behavior as that of a drunkard.

Those who persist in contumacy collect errors upon errors of distorted biblical doctrine and that is to be drunk with strong drink or wine.

Lets take a look at several verses that describe this:

“ Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!  
Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:”

**Isaiah 5:21-22 KJV**

The verse mentioned above perfectly explains how a man can think of himself as wise in their own eyes because they reason against the truths of faith, thus thinking themselves wise above others.

“ Surely the princes of Zoan are fools, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish: how say ye unto Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings?

Where are they? where are thy wise men? and let them tell thee now, and let them know what the Lord of hosts hath purposed upon Egypt.

The princes of Zoan are become fools, the princes of Noph are deceived; they have also seduced Egypt, even they that are the stay of the tribes thereof.

The Lord hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof: and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof, as a drunken man staggereth in his vomit.”

### **Isaiah 19:11-14 KJV**

“ But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.

For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.”

### **Isaiah 28:7-9 KJV**

“ Therefore thou shalt speak unto them this word; Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and they shall say unto thee, Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?

Then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.”

### **Jeremiah 13:12-13 KJV**

“ Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.”

### **Jeremiah 25:27 KJV**

**//** *Babylon hath been a golden cup in the Lord's hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad."*

### **Jeremiah 51:7 KJV**

**“** *And the Lord spake unto Aaron, saying,  
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 your generations:"*

### **Leviticus 10:8-9 KJV**

**“** *They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end."*

### **Psalm 107:27 KJV**

**“** *Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.  
For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.  
He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white."*

### **Joel 1:5-7 KJV**

**“** *And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.  
And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,  
The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:"*

### **Revelation 14:8-10 KJV**

**“** *And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."*

### **Revelation 16:19 KJV**

“With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

#### **Revelation 17:2 KJV**

“For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.”

#### **Revelation 18:3 KJV**

“And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”

#### **Revelation 19:15 KJV**

As you can see, I pulled numerous verses, ALL of which would make ZERO sense if we believed in the false doctrine of “drinking alcohol is a sin” or “drunkenness” is to be taken literally.

The bible urges people to drink wisely. Meaning to be careful what you take in, what you ingest, what you partake of. We are to be partakers of truth, and truth alone. To be drunk is to be so enmeshed with yourself and what you think, you are disobeying God and obeying your own god, which is your own ideas/perceptions derived from self, rather than from God. When we do this, we are sinning, and the truth (Jesus) is what saves us.