

TEN BIBLE REASONS WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN SOCIAL DRINKING

Ira Y. Rice, Jr.

BECAUSE OF ITS NATURE IN GENERAL

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

BECAUSE OF ITS EFFECTS ON THOSE GIVEN TO WINE OR STRONG DRINK

“Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder” (Pro. 23:29-32).

BECAUSE OF WHAT IS SAID ABOUT GIVING STRONG DRINK TO OTHERS

“Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish” (Pro. 31: 6).

“Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!” (Hab. 2:15).

BECAUSE OF WHAT IS SAID ABOUT DRUNKARDS

“But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a DRUNKARD, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat” (1 Cor. 5:11).

“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, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor DRUNKARDS, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Cor. 6:9-10).

BECAUSE OF WHAT IS SAID ABOUT DRUNKENNESS

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the DRUNKEN; the Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Mat. 24:45-51).

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and DRUNKENNESS, and care of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:34-36).

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and DRUNKENNESS, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:12-14).

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, DRUNKENNESS, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:19-21).

“...they that be DRUNKEN are DRUNKEN in the night. But let us who are of the day, be sober...” (1 The. 5:7-8).

BECAUSE OF PAUL’S TEACHING ABOUT DEFILING THE TEMPLE OF GOD

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are” (1 Cor. 3:16-17).

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

In recent years, medical science has proved that the debilitating effects of alcohol on the body begin sooner and are more far reaching than is popularly supposed.

BECAUSE OF PAUL’S TEACHING AGAINST ADDICTION

“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 Cor. 6:12).

The addictive power of strong drink is too well known for need of argument.

BECAUSE OF THE PROBABILITY OF CAUSING OFFENSE

“Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother’s way. I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. Let not your good be evil spoken of: For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. Let us therefore follow after the things that make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another. For meat destroy not the work of God. All things are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence. It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak. Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth. And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Rom. 14:13-23).

BECAUSE CHRISTIANS ARE TO AVOID EVEN THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL

“Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1 The.5:22).

BECAUSE CHRISTIANS ARE TO PROVIDE THINGS HONORABLE IN THE SIGHT OF ALL MEN

“...Provide things honest in the sight of all men” (Rom. 12:17).

“Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men” (2 Cor. 8:21).

“Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation” (1 Pet. 2:12).

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Phi. 4:8).

Let's face it, brethren; social drinking is simply not honorable in the sight of all men. For this reason (as well as for the other nine reasons foregoing), Christians should NOT engage in social drinking. ~

Deceased