



To Drink But Not
To Be Drunken

Drinking From A
Biblical Perspective

by John Collins

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Introduction

I recently read a book entitled “Out of the Cult and Into the Church,” describing the battles faced by a Mormon as they tried to live their Christian lives from day to day.

At first, it struck me as very odd when I read how the Mormon beliefs instructed the followers to abstain from caffeine – a teaching that I had never heard before. The poor sister trying to live her life dedicated to the Lord struggled whenever she fellowshiped with anyone drinking a cup of coffee. Though she knew the Truth, it was ingrained in her mind that caffeine was wrong for God’s children, and she would not easily be able to overcome the false teaching.

After I thought about it for a few minutes, I realized that this was *not* that unusual in the Christian world. With caffeine, yes, but there are other things that we consider “sin” when in all actuality the Bible tells us the exact opposite.

I was reminded of a celebration dinner with a good Christian brother one evening. He ordered a drink for his wife and himself, and enjoyed it throughout the meal. He was by no means intoxicated, and controlled himself very well with his consumption. Because of teaching that I had held sacred since birth, I could not help

thinking that he was partaking in sin by drinking this “vile” drink. I found myself constantly staring at it as though he were drinking gasoline while holding a match.

When I left, the situation bothered me. The Bible teaches us to judge no man, for only God knows the heart. Had I judged this good Christian brother and his wife? I hoped not!

Afterwards, I started studying the scriptures. The Bible has the answer for everything in our lives, and the scriptures would have the perfect answer.

I quickly found that not only was this teaching of teetotalism contrary to the Bible, my judging the brother was worse than his small drink in the eyes of God! I found myself amazed at the many scriptures that revolve around drinking, and the many stories that would not be in the scriptures had the hero not been drunk.

It is worthwhile for us to search these old beliefs out in the scriptures ourselves, rather than simply believe what we’ve been taught with no Biblical foundation for our doctrines.

Three Words

There are three separate words used for wine and strong drink in the original language of the Bible. In the later translations, the word “wine” appears in the Bible over 200 times. Critics of strong beverage have tried to twist the words of the scriptures to fit their teachings, but the fact remains that people throughout the Bible – even the saints of old – drank intoxicating substances and indeed got drunk.

Some preachers have passed this off as “custom,” and “there was nothing else to drink,” but when you examine the facts around drinking, and compare it to the Bible, it is plain to see that their attempts to twist the scriptures can easily be unraveled.

It has recently been discovered that the wine vineyards were not the only production of strong drink; all of the items necessary for brewing massive amounts of beer have been discovered throughout parts of the world’s antiquities.

The Old Testament describes three words in the Hebrew language to describe the drinks that were common:

Tiyrowsh – freshly squeezed grapes, very rarely fermented.

The preachers typically use this example for their sermons, explaining how the culture did not have clean water, and so they squeezed grapes.

An example of this type of drink would be when Isaac was speaking to Esau:

*And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?
Genesis 27:37*

This would be very similar to our grape juice of today, only much, much stronger. Ours is watered down, and has not set long enough to have even the slightest fermentation. Oddly, it is the *least* used word to describe wine in the Old Testament.

Tiyrowsh Verse Count

Genesis	2
Numbers	1
Deuteronomy	7
Judges	1
2 Kings	1
2 Chronicles	2
Nehemiah	5
Psalms	1
Proverbs	1
Isaiah	4
Jeremiah	1
Hosea	6
Joel	3
Micah	1
Haggai	1
Zechariah	1

Total 38

Yayin – fermented wine.

The examples of this drink in the bible are usually describing drunkenness – which is a subject we will go over later.

Examples of this can be found in over a hundred places throughout the Old Testament, giving

examples of the saints of old having a little more of this drink than they should have.

*And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.
Genesis 9:24*

In many of these cases, the story is told of the consequences they had from high levels of intoxication, but the fact remains that they did drink the fermented wine. In fact, Melchizedek the high priest of God toasted Abraham when he paid tithes.

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

*And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand.
And he gave him tithes of all.
Genesis 14:18-20*

Yayin Verse Count

<u>Genesis</u>	10
<u>Exodus</u>	1

<u>Leviticus</u>	2
<u>Numbers</u>	7
<u>Deuteronomy</u>	5
<u>Joshua</u>	2
<u>Judges</u>	4
<u>1 Samuel</u>	7
<u>2 Samuel</u>	3
<u>1 Chronicles</u>	3
<u>2 Chronicles</u>	3
<u>Nehemiah</u>	4
<u>Esther</u>	6
<u>Job</u>	3
<u>Psalms</u>	4
<u>Proverbs</u>	10
<u>Ecclesiastes</u>	3
<u>Solomon</u>	7
<u>Isaiah</u>	13
<u>Jeremiah</u>	12
<u>Lamentations</u>	1
<u>Ezekiel</u>	2
<u>Daniel</u>	4
<u>Hosea</u>	4
<u>Joel</u>	2
<u>Amos</u>	5
<u>Micah</u>	2
<u>Habakkuk</u>	1
<u>Zephaniah</u>	1
<u>Haggai</u>	1

[Zechariah](#) 2

Total 134

Shekar – strong drink

Though this word is not used often in the Old Testament, the Bible gives us instruction *how* we should use it – not how to abstain from it.

Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.

Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

Proverbs 31

Shekar Verse Count

[Leviticus](#) 1

[Numbers](#) 2

[Deuteronomy](#) 2

[Judges](#) 3

[1 Samuel](#) 1

[Psalms](#) 1

[Proverbs](#) 3

[Isaiah](#) 6

[Micah](#) 1

Total 20

Strong Drink In The Old Testament

Shekar means simply: “strong drink.” The first instance of this word’s use in the Bible is Leviticus 10:9. It does not instruct the children of God to abstain from the drink in all situations, only when they entered the tabernacle.

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:

The second place this word is used is describing the Nazirite vow:

He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried.
Numbers 6:3

Later in Numbers, the strong drink is actually *included* in the offering:

And the drink offering thereof shall be the fourth part of an hin for the one lamb: in the holy place shalt thou cause the strong

wine to be poured unto the LORD for a drink offering.

Numbers 28:7

In Deuteronomy, when the commandments were given to abstain from the unclean beasts and gave them provisions of what the children of God could and could not eat, strong drink was given to them as their blessing:

And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household

Deuteronomy 14:26

There are a few instances of the word used throughout Judges, as descriptions of their Nazerite vows to abstain from the strong drink. Later in Samuel, however, Hannah was thought to be drunk when in fact she was not. Eli, the priest, was not surprised at what he had supposed was her intoxication, but instead asked her when she was going to stop drinking:

And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

1 Samuel 1:14-15

In Psalms, David writes that he was the target of songs sung by drunkards. The interesting part about this is the fact that according to Josephus' Antiquities of the Jews, David was no stranger to strong drink. He would tell his men of thousands to abstain from drinking a week prior to battle, so that they were not drunk while they were fighting.

Proverbs warns us not to listen to prophesy that is produced by strong drink, and to give strong drink to those about to perish. Later, Isaiah and Micah both spoke out against prophecy produced by intoxication.

Isaiah prophesying of destruction, spoke of the strong drink along with all of the other tools and instruments used by the children of God for rejoicing. When the harps cease, when the tabrets cease, and the rejoicing ends, the strong drink will be bitter to those who drink it. [Isaiah 24:9]

He continued to prophesy and preach against those that were teaching while intoxicated, or those that would abuse the strong drink. There is nothing that would lead to the idea that strong drink was forbidden – only drunkenness was forbidden.

Common Wine

References to wine in general are very common throughout the Old Testament. There are stories of drunkenness, rules for the temples, and offerings using wine, but one thing is for certain: fermented wine was very common throughout the ages.

Noah drank so much wine that he was drunken and naked. Melchizedek offered wine to Abraham. Lot's daughters forced wine on Lot so they could sleep with him. Isaac blessed Jacob while celebrating with wine.

Examples in the Old Testament give clear record of the consequences of drunkenness. Those that cannot handle their drink made it quickly evident.

It was abused, also. Similar to the American Indians drinking peyote to see visions, there were those who claimed to be prophets by intoxicating themselves with wine. More than one prophet of the Old Testament spoke out against it.

Temples were forbidden to those intoxicated, similar to what we would expect from churches today. Members should be clean and sober when

entering God's place of worship. Wine was used in the offerings.

Job knew the problems of making wine. He compared his swollen belly to wine fermenting with no ventilation; it was ready to "burst like new bottles."

Wine was used to make the hearts of men glad, and David wrote psalms about it. It was commonly used in feasts and celebrations. Solomon used it to compare the beauty of his beloved.

The New Testament hardly mentions wine at all. It is evident that God's chosen were not to drink wine or strong drink, but the New Testament does not give any real instruction as to the usage or abstinence of wine for God's children.

This can be attributed to the fact that the old laws and customs were already in place, and the issue of "to drink or not to drink" would sound absurd to anyone during the time of Jesus and the apostles.

Romans tells us not to drink wine if it offends your brother, but does not condemn it when your brother is not around.

It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.
Romans 14:21

Ephesians tells us not to get intoxicated, but does not tell us to abstain:

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.
Eph. 5:18

From the examples given in the Bible, we can see that it was not forbidden to drink wine or strong drink. It was actually common.

As with anything else in our lives, it can also be abused. Drunkenness leads to many problems in the home, job, family, and health.

John said it best:

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, [then] have we confidence toward God.

If your hearts condemn you, don't drink it. If it offends your brother, don't drink it in front of him. Don't come to church drunk. Don't condemn a brother for having a drink.

Above all, have love one for the other. If we have perfect love, everything else will correct itself.

References to Strong Drink:

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

He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried.

Numbers 6:3

And the drink offering thereof shall be the fourth part of an hin for the one lamb: in the holy place shalt thou cause the strong wine to be poured unto the LORD for a drink offering.

Numbers 28:7

And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after , for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth : and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice , thou, and thine household,

Deuteronomy 14:26

Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 29:6

Now therefore beware , I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:

Judges 13:4

But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink , neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.

Judges 13:7

She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe .

Judges 13:14

And Hannah answered and said , No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

Samuel 1:14

They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was the song of the drunkards .

Psalms 69:11

*Wine is a mocker , strong drink is raging : and
whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise .*

Proverbs 20:1

*Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish ,
and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.*

Proverbs 31:6

*Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning,
that they may follow strong drink; that continue
until night, till wine inflame them!*

Isaiah 5:11

*They shall not drink wine with a song; strong
drink shall be bitter to them that drink it.*

Isaiah 24:9

*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.*

Isaiah 28:7

*Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill
ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall
be as this day, and much more abundant.*

Isaiah 56:12

*If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie ,
saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of
strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this
people.*

Micah 2:10

References to Wine in General

*And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.
Genesis 9:21*

*And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.
Genesis 9:24*

*And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth band wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.
Genesis 14:18*

*Come , let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. 33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in , and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down , nor when she arose . 34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in , and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. 35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose , and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down , nor when she arose .
Genesis 19:32-35*

And he said , Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat : and he brought him wine, and he drank .

Genesis 27:25

Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: 12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

Genesis 49:11-12

And with the one lamb a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering.

Exodus 29:39

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 10:9

And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the LORD for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin.

Leviticus 23:13

He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried. 4 All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the kernels even to the husk.

Numbers 6:3-4

And the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering shalt thou prepare with the burnt offering or sacrifice, for one lamb.

Numbers 15:5

And for a drink offering thou shalt offer the third part of an hin of wine, for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Numbers 15:7

And thou shalt bring for a drink offering half an hin of wine, for an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Numbers 15:10

And their drink offerings shall be half an hin of wine unto a bullock, and the third part of an hin unto a ram, and a fourth part of an hin unto a

lamb: this is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

Numbers 28:14

And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after , for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth : and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice , thou, and thine household,

Deuteronomy 14:26

Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress them, but shalt neither drink of the wine, nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them.

Deuteronomy 28:39

e have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 29:6

Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.

Deuteronomy 32:33

Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? let them rise up and help you, and be your protection.

Deuteronomy 32:38

*They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors , and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent , and bound up ;
Joshua 9:4*

*And these bottles of wine, which we filled , were new; and, behold, they be rent : and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.
Joshua 9:13*

*Now therefore beware , I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:
Judges 13:4*

*But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink , neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.
Judges 13:7*

*She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe .
Judges 13:14*

Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is band wine also for me, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man which is with thy servants: there is no want of any thing.
Judges 19:19

And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken ? put away thy wine from thee. 15 And Hannah answered and said , No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.
1 Samuel 1:14-15

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.
1 Samuel 1:24

And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid , and sent them by David his son unto Saul.
1 Samuel 16:20

Then Abigail made haste , and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed , and five measures of parched corn,

and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.

1 Samuel 25:18

But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone.

1 Samuel 25:37

Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying , Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous , and be valiant .

2 Samuel 13:28

And the king said unto Ziba, What meanest thou by these? And Ziba said , The asses be for the king's household to ride on ; and the band summer fruit for the young men to eat ; and the wine, that such as be faint in the wilderness may drink .

2 Samuel 16:2

Some of them also were appointed to oversee the vessels, and all the instruments of the sanctuary, and the fine flour, and the wine, and the oil, and the frankincense, and the spices.

1 Chronicles 9:29

Moreover they that were nigh them, even unto Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, brought bon asses, and on camels, and on mules, and on oxen, and meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep abundantly: for there was joy in Israel.

1 Chronicles 12:40

And over the vineyards was Shimei the Ramathite: over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi the Shiphmite:

1 Chronicles 27:27

And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence.

Nehemiah 2:1

But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them band wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

Nehemiah 5:15

Now that which was prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all

*sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bof
the governor, because the bondage was heavy
upon this people.*

Nehemiah 5:18

*In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine
presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves,
and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs,
and all manner of burdens, which they brought
into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified
against them in the day wherein they sold victuals.*

Nehemiah 13:15

*And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, (the
vessels being diverse one from another,) and royal
wine in abundance, according to the state of the
king.*

Esther 1:7

*On the seventh day, when the heart of the king
was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman,
Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar,
and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that served in
the presence of Ahasuerus the king,*

Esther 1:10

*And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of
wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted
thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of
the kingdom it shall be performed .*

Esther 5:6

And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed , even to the half of the kingdom.

Esther 7:2

And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king. 8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

Esther 7:7-8

And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job 1:13

While he was yet speaking , there came also another, and said , Thy sons and thy daughters

were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job 1:18

Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent ; it is ready to burst like new bottles.

Job 32:19

Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment.

Psalms 60:3

For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red ; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out , and drink them.

Psalms 75:8

And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine , and bwhich strengtheneth man's heart.

Psalms 104:15

For they eat the bof wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

Proverbs 4:17

She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table.

Proverbs 9:2

*Come , eat of my bread, and drink of the wine
which I have mingled .*

Proverbs 9:5

*Wine is a mocker , strong drink is raging : and
whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise .*

Proverbs 20:1

*He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he
that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich .*

Proverbs 21:17

*Be not among winebibbers ; among riotous eaters
of flesh:*

Proverbs 23:20

*They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to
seek mixed wine. 31 Look not thou upon the wine
when it is red , when it giveth his colour in the cup
, when it moveth itself aright.*

Proverbs 23:30-31

*It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to
drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:*

Proverbs 31:4

*Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish ,
and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.*

Proverbs 31:6

*I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine,
yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to
lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that
good for the sons of men, which they should do
under the heaven all the days of their life.*

Ecclesiastes 2:3

*Go thy way , eat thy bwith joy, and drink thy wine
with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy
works.*

Ecclesiastes 9:7

*A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh
merry : but money answereth all things.*

Ecclesiastes 10:19

*Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath
brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and
rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more
than wine: the upright love thee.*

Song of Solomon 1:4

*How fair is thy love, my sister, my spouse! how
much better is thy love than wine! and the smell of
thine ointments than all spices!*

Song of Solomon 4:10

I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat , O friends; drink , yea, drink abundantly , O beloved.
Song of Solomon 5:1

And the roof of thy mouth like the best wine for my beloved, that goeth down sweetly, causing the lips of those that are asleep to speak .
Song of Solomon 7:9

I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's house, who would instruct me: I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate.
Song of Solomon 8:2

Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! 12 And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands.
Isaiah 5:11-12

Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

Isaiah 5:22

And gladness is taken away , and joy out of the plentiful field; and in the vineyards there shall be no singing , neither shall there be shouting : the treaders shall tout no wine in their presses; I have made their vintage shouting to cease .

Isaiah 16:10

And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink ; for to morrow we shall die .

Isaiah 22:13

They shall not drink wine with a song; strong drink shall be bitter to them that drink it.

Isaiah 24:9

There is a crying for wine in the streets; all joy is darkened , the mirth of the land is gone .

Isaiah 24:11

Stay yourselves, and wonder ; cry ye out , and cry : they are drunken , but not with wine; they stagger , but not with strong drink.

Isaiah 29:9

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy , and eat

*; yea, come , buy wine and milk without money
and without price.*

Isaiah 55:1

*Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill
ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall
be as this day, and much more abundant.*

Isaiah 56:12

*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?*

Jeremiah 13:12

*Mine heart within me is broken because of the
prophets; all my bones shake ; I am like a drunken
man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome ,
because of the LORD, and because of the words of
his holiness.*

Jeremiah 23:9

*For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me;
Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and
cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink
it.*

Jeremiah 25:15

Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink .

Jeremiah 35:2

And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine. 6 But they said , We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying , Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever:

Jeremiah 35:5-6

Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;

Jeremiah 35:8

The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed ; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment: notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking ; but ye hearkened not unto me.

Jeremiah 35:14

As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah to serve the Chaldeans, which will come unto us: but ye, gather ye wine, and summer fruits, and oil, and put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that ye have taken .

Jeremiah 40:10

Even all the Jews returned out of all places whither they were driven , and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, unto Mizpah, and gathered wine and summer fruits very much .

Jeremiah 40:12

And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall twith shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

Jeremiah 48:33

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

They say to their mothers, Where is corn and wine? when they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city, when their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom.

Lamentations 2:11

Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

Ezekiel 27:18

Neither shall any priest drink wine, when they enter into the inner court.

Ezekiel 44:21

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel 1:8

Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

Daniel 1:16

I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

Daniel 10:3

Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.

Hosea 4:11

In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorn.

Hosea 7:5

They shall not offer wine offerings to the LORD, neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices shall be unto them as the bof mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted : for their bfor their soul shall not come into the house of the LORD.

Hosea 9:4

They that dwell under his shadow shall return ; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.

Hosea 14:7

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.

Joel 1:5

And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot , and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink .

Joel 3:3

And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

Amos 2:8

But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink ; and commanded the prophets, saying , Prophecy not.

Amos 2:12

Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

Amos 5:11

And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

Amos 9:14

If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie , saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

Micah 2:1

Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:

Habakkuk 2:4

Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof.

Zephaniah 1:12

If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No.

Haggai 2:11

The LORD of hosts shall defend them; and they shall devour, and subdue with sling stones; and they shall drink, and make a noise as through wine; and they shall be filled like bowls, and as the corners of the altar.

Zechariah 9:15

And they of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine: yea, their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

Zechariah 10:7

About the Author

John Collins is the author and webmaster of www.seekyethetruth.com.

Almost 36 years in “the Message”, the name of the group of people (cult) following the teachings of William Marrion Branham, John has dedicated his life towards helping those who are still in this cult, and to those who are no longer bound but serving Jesus Christ with many questions. His goal is to remind both groups that we serve a living God who does not look to any organization, doctrine, mystery, or gift of the Spirit; we serve a God who looks at the heart.

His main purpose is to point others back to the Bible, which is the Absolute. All words of men may fail, but the Word of God will never fail. We should put our hearts and minds back on Jesus Christ, who died on the cross so that ALL could be saved by grace through faith.

Seek Ye The Truth started as a central place for all cult followers to ask the questions openly and anonymously, many of which they had in their hearts and minds for several years and were afraid to ask. The original goal was to go "hand in hand" with the local pastors, spreading the answers and vindicating the teachings of William Marrion Branham.

As research started to progress, more false teachings were found than truths. More prophecies had failed than had succeeded. None could be proven. Bible teachings came from Gnostic texts and other strange beliefs, and did not line up with the Word of God. Cult pastors had no answer.

While some live normal lives walking "middle ground," many are starting to become very hurt and abused. Many suffer depression. Physical and sexual abuse, and self-condemnation stories started surfacing.

Over time, Seek Ye The Truth slowly transformed from a site of questions into a site dedicated to help those in need. There are almost two million cult followers of William Branham around the world, making it larger than some of the other cult followings, and there are almost no support groups for those desperately seeking help. Please join us as we help others.

God Bless You!