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"Wine Is a Mocker"

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Good morning, friends. As unpopular as it may be in this modern day of ours I want to bring you this text from Prov. 20:1, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Regardless of those who may think to the contrary, I believe this verse is just as true now as it was when it was written. Wine is a mocker. It allures those who thirst for it, to partake of it, which they do to their own sorrow. Then this scripture says that whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. There are some deep truths worth considering here.

Going to the book of Genesis, the first one in the Bible, and in chapter 9 and beginning with verse 20, we have an account of that which happened to Noah after the flood. Noah was a good man and in fact it says of him in Gen. 6:9, that "Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God." But now, let me give you this scripture beginning with chapter 9 and verse 20, "And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness. And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren."

I really don't know how long before this time folks had been making wine but they seemed to have learned it about as far back as history goes. Not only do the scriptures sound a warning loud and clear against the use of wine and whiskey, but in a recent issue of the Readers' Digest it was pointed out that those who even drink on a social level are suspected of losing some brain cells which are damaged by the use of alcohol. Remember, they tell us that brain cells can not be replaced. The ones that you have now must last you for the rest of your life. Can you afford to have them damaged by the use of whiskey, wine, and beer? Be these thoughts ever so sobering yet it was estimated in this particular issue of the Readers' Digest that about 75% of the men and 63% of the women in America drink alcoholic beverages of some sort, and one drinker in 18 is really an outright alcoholic. This means that some 4,800,000 Americans are alcoholics. Does that sound astounding? Well, it does to me and it is also frightening for many different reasons. For

one thing you never know when you may meet one of these people driving on the highway. Think of the innocent folks who are killed or crippled for life simply because someone had a few drinks of beer or whiskey. It is estimated that if a 150 pound man drinks only 2 bottles of beer on an empty stomach the alcoholic content in his blood stream will rise to about five hundredths of one percent. At this level the part of his brain which controls worry or anxiety is affected to the extent that he begins to feel "lifted up". In other words, this particular area of his brain has in effect been paralyzed. He is not as cautious and concerned as he was before. Double this amount of beer and he begins to lose control of his muscles. As comical as it may seem to see a man trying to walk who is drunk it is really pathetic as you see him stagger, trying to hold on to something to support him to keep him from falling. In commenting on this verse, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Adam Clarke had this to say, "It deceives by its fragrance, intoxicates by its strength, and renders the intoxicated ridiculous."

Then here's another scripture in Prov. that describes the results of 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. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of

the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalth thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again." Prov. 23:29-35 I say that I believe the writer knew what he was talking about.

Let me tell you what folks need. It is not a drink of wine, whiskey, or beer, but they need the saving grace of God to cleanse them from their filthy habits and wicked habits, and life will indeed take on a meaning which it never had before. Prov. 23:21 says, "For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags." And again in Isa. 28:7 we find these words, "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." Listen to this poem:

The Price of a Drink

"Five cents a glass!" Does any one think

That is really the price of a drink?

"Five cents a glass," I hear you say;

"Why, that isn't very much to pay."

Ah, no, indeed! 'tis a very small sum

You are passing over 'twixt finger and thumb;

And if that were all you gave away,
It wouldn't be very much to pay.

The price of a drink? Let him decide
Who has lost his courage, and lost his pride,

And lies a groveling heap of clay,

Not far removed from a beast, today.

The price of a drink? Let that one
tell
Who sleeps tonight in a murderer's
cell,
And feels within him the fires of hell.
Honor and virtue, love and truth,
All the glory and pride of youth,
Hopes of manhood, and wreath of
fame,
High endeavor, and noble aim, --
These are the treasures thrown away
As the price of a drink from day to
day.

"Five cents a glass!" How Satan
laughed
As over the bar the young man
quaffed
The beaded liquor! for the demon
knew
The terrible work that drink would do.
And ere the morning, the victim lay
With his life-blood swiftly ebbing
away;
And that was the price he paid, alas!
For the pleasure of taking a social
glass.

The price of a drink! If you want to
know
What some are willing to pay for it,
go
Through the wretched tenement over
there,
With dingy windows and broken stair,
Where foul disease like a vampire
crawls
With outstretched wings o'er the
moldy walls.

There poverty dwells with her hungry
brood,
Wild-eyed as demons for lack of food;
There shame, in a corner, crouches
low;
There violence deals its cruel blow;
And innocent ones are thus accursed
To pay the price of another's thirst.

"Five cents a glass!" Oh, if that
were all,
The sacrifice would, indeed, be
small;
But the money's worth is the least
amount
We pay, and, whoever will keep
account,
Will learn the terrible waste and
blight
That follow the ruinous appetite.
"Five cents a glass!" Does any one
think
That that is really the price of a
drink?

Let us pray,

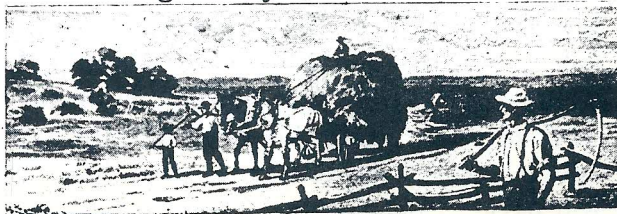
Our Father,

Bless each listener of the broadcast.
Have compassion and mercy upon any
who may be bound by the habit of drink
or any of the other associated habits
which go along with it. Deliver them
through Christ and teach them the way
of truth and righteousness and thine
shall be the praise through Christ our
Lord. Amen

Friends, if we may be a help to you or
if you would like for someone to be
agreed with you in prayer that you may
be delivered from evil habits, be sure
to let us know. Address your letter to
The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla.

(Song)

Until we meet again this is Willie Mur-
phey saying may God's richest bless-
ings be with each of you and a very
cheerful good-bye!



Testimonies

Psa. 145:8-9 "The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion;. . . The Lord is good to all" If a person doesn't have that love and compassion they can't be much service to others, even tho they may be upon more light on other things.

--Sis. N. Champion

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From Okla. : "I hope you all are well and doing fine in soul and body. I am still encouraged to live for the dear Lord. I still have little ailments in my body, but I am still trusting the Lord for them all. The Lord heals me of some of my ailments, then afterward something else comes upon me. He must have a purpose in doing it. Pray for me that I will submit to it whatever it be. I am still enjoying reading the Mission Trail. May the Lord bless each one of you and all of the saints. Pray much for me as I pray for you all."

--Mary May

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From Ill. : "May God's grace, mercy, and peace be with you all! I thank you again for the Mission Trail, and the tapes you've been so kind to lend us. They are a help in our services at Grand Tower, and we do appreciate them. Last night we heard the 1st message of 1966--and it is still good!. . . I am thinking of the campmeeting at Monark, and really would have enjoyed going, but this year I think it best to stay home and go to the Myrtle camp meeting. My husband is working and I don't feel like it would be good to leave him for 2 times. Since I am not feeling so well, thought perhaps the trip to Myrtle would not be quite so hard on me. . . Hope you had a nice visit with Patsy and the little grand daughter! How did she like the grandpa she had never seen? Will close with love to you all!"

--Sis. Thelma Sprague

From La. : "Dear Bro. Willie and family and saints there--to say OK, still going--nerves seem to be some better. Was glad to hear from Bro. Merrill. . . the Lord is real good to me and I surely thank and praise Him for it. Bless His worthy name. . . Keep praying that He keep His hand of love on us all."

--J. M. Mitchell

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From Colo. : "Greetings in Jesus dear name. Here is a little change to help with expenses. Am feeling about as usual. Still living for the Lord. Your brother in Christ,"

--Frank Kutra

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From Calif. : "I am still saved and trusting God. I am a lot better. My eye has been real bad but is a lot better and my nerves too. So I am teaching the little class again as seems that is what God wanted me to do, so maybe I should of been contented in what God had for me to do. So I am doing it in faith believing when we do what God wants He will take care of my eyes and nerves. So you folks still keep praying that I will be completely healed. . ."

--Sis. Ada Leach

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From Mo. : "Surely I thank him for his many blessing to me. I am still rejoicing over the good campmeeting, for all the good that was done. Time passed off so fast. The national campmeeting has come and gone. We trust there was much lasting good done and there will be more get to heaven because of it. . . I hope all will get under the burden for the Myrtle campmeeting. We want to go Lord willing. . . the weather is hot and Asa and I are pretty well worn out, but hope we can get rested before time to start. . . We trust you all are well and happy in the work you are doing for the Lord. We desire your prayers and we are praying for you all."

--Katie and Asa Gibson

From Ga. : "Dear publishers of Mission Trail, I am real pleased to get the little paper. I enjoy reading every thing in it. I wish I could hear the program over the radio stations. I notice Georgia isn't on the list of stations you have in the paper. I am thankful to the Lord that some one sent my name to you as I had never heard of the Mission Trail paper until last year. We need your prayers." --Mrs. Ray Sloan

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From Mo. : "We are thankful to be able to greet you once again in the Name of our precious saviour and keeper. We appreciate the privilege of serving the Lord, and love this sweet humble way that he planned for us to walk in. It grows sweeter each day. And we are made to realize more and more how transit the things pertaining to this life is. It makes us want to send all the spiritual material we can heavenward. We enjoyed the fellowship of the saints at the Monark Camp Mtg. and the good services while there. We hear that the Lord sent His spirit down on the camp Fri. night of the last of the meeting. Praise the dear Lord, it surely did rejoice our souls to hear of it. Would love to of been there. . . Pray with us for the weather for the meeting at Myrtle. We have had up in the 90's here and showers along. The humidity gets rather high. We are trusting the dear Lord will see fit to give some cooler weather, but not too cold for those in the dorms. The Lord knows just the right temperature. It's so wonderful to know He sees the need and knows how to work for us. We can never thank Him enough for the way he protected our home from going up in flames, a few days before the Monark meeting. I thank Him often for it. His love is so great to us. How we do want to love and appreciate our Lord."

--Sis. Natalie, Bro. Murphy Allen

From N. M. : "Trust every one is well. The Lord bless you all in his service. I sure enjoy the Mission Trail very much, am sending a small gift to help send out the gospel truth to many dear saints. Christian love,"

--Ruth Doolittle

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From Minn. : "Greetings of love to all you dear ones back there in the name of Jesus. I enjoy the little paper so much. I love to read the testimonies. Oh it is so wonderful to know the true saints of God. I love them all. I am sending a little free offering for God's work. With love,"

--Sis. Pearl Whitcomb

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From La. : "Your prayers for me are greatly appreciated. It meant so much to me to get calls from Monark during the meeting telling me that they were holding on for my healing. And the Lord has been so precious to me. But I still need help. I went to church last Sunday by sheer will power and it was a mistake. I now have to stay in bed and get to the table in a wheel chair. I have been sleeping more at times but my pain is still great. My right knee and elbow and the nerves in all of my right side are damaged. . . I am grateful to all the saints and friends for the lovely get well cards and notes of cheer and comfort since I have been hurt. May our Lord bless every one of you. I am doubly grateful for the Mission Trail program since I am not able to get out. May our Lord bless your every effort in His service. The best way to know how much it means to a shut in is to be one. My dear mother, Sis. Short, needs your continued prayers for her eyes. Only our Lord knows how much she suffers. Her courage has been out standing and her full trust is in the Lord. In Christian love,"

--Sis. Gladys Cashio

