

PROVERBS: Wisdom for Living

Study 20: Should Christians Drink Alcohol?

READ Proverbs 23:29-35 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig Baxter's [sermon](#).

Should a Christian drink alcohol? This has been a controversial question in the church throughout the ages. Often our answer to this is shaped by how we were brought up and what positive or negative effects alcohol has had on our lives. However, like all questions we must submit them to the Word of God. Through a careful study of Scripture, we come to understand that wine is both a permissible gift from God and a destructive addictive. Therefore, much wisdom is required to know if and when to consume alcohol.

Main lesson: Christians are called to exercise much wisdom in the use of their liberties in Christ, governed by the greatest commandment, to love God and others.

Questions:

1. What is your personal conviction regarding the use of alcoholic beverages? What is your personal practice?
2. From the following verses explain what you think God's view of alcohol use is? Prov 3:10; 9:5; Psalm 104:14-15; Gen 14:18; John 2:1-11; 1 Tim 5:23.
3. What do the following verses say are some negative results from alcohol? Prov 20:1; 23:29-35.
4. From Proverbs 21:17, what might it mean to be someone who "loves wine" and how might this lead to negative ramifications?

5. From Proverbs 31:4, what is Lemuel's mother's advice to her son and why? Do you think this should be applied to those who lead others? Why or why not?
6. What positive and negative results do you see have come from your practice regarding alcohol?
7. What happens to those who continually get drunk and why? See 1 Cor 6:9-11.
8. If you have ever been drunk in the past, were there any negative consequences? Are you ever tempted to get drunk again? Practically, how are you resisting?
9. Write out a principle beside each of the following groups of verses that will help guide you in the way you use your liberties in Christ:
1 Cor 10:23; 31

1 Cor 10:32; Rom 14:13

Rom 14:22

1 Cor 9:22; 10:33-11:1
10. How has this lesson changed or confirmed your view of alcohol consumption or practice?

STOP AND PRAY:

Praise: God who gives wisdom in abundance to those who fear Him and humbly ask

Thank: the Lord for the complete salvation and liberties we now have in Christ

Pray: that you might grow in your love and obedience to Christ in every area of life