

Does The Bible Condone Social Drinking? (Part 3 of 3)

by Douglas Hoff

Another passage which social drinkers use to support their practice is 1 Timothy 5:23 (NKJV) which says, “No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities.” Please notice, it says a **little** wine and it was to be used for medicinal purposes, not “social drinking” or inebriation. Some claim social drinking is for relaxation and health benefits but research has found grape juice has all the benefits of wine without the problems of alcohol.

Some claim Paul’s remarks regarding the qualifications of elders and deacons give support to social drinking. The argument goes like this: Paul said elders must not be given to wine (1 Tim. 3:3) while deacons must not be given to **much** wine (1 Tim. 3:8). Thus, deacons may imbibe a little bit – at least, that is what they would like it to mean.

In reality, the remarks to both elders and deacons are pointing out the dangers of alcohol. The expression “not given to wine” literally means not to be around wine. Why? Because it can entice as Proverbs 23:31 speaks about. What then about the expression “not given to **much** wine”? One’s outlook depends on whether he thinks wine is inherently evil or not. Consider if the Bible said “Don’t commit much murder,” would it be OK to commit a *little* murder? Of course not! However, if someone told us not to eat much cake, we know eating a little is OK since cake is not inherently evil (cf., Prov. 25:27, 16).

Paul said elders must be sober-minded (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:8). Sobriety literally means being in control and that requires keeping the mind unclouded by alcohol. Paul also said the older men (Tit. 2:2), the young men (Tit. 2:6), and all Christians (Tit. 2:12) are to be sober, sober-minded, and live soberly.

Considering all of these facts, how can anyone think the Bible condones social drinking? The truth of the scriptures is that drunkenness is just a matter of degree. When one takes the first drink of alcohol, he has become one drink drunk. To please God, Christians must obey His will by keeping themselves from the devil’s brew!



Church of Christ

20 Haghey Road
Brookville, Pa 15825
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Sunday	10:00 AM	Bible Study (for all ages)
	10:45 AM	Worship Assembly
	6:00 PM	Youth Bible Gathering
	6:30 PM	Worship Assembly
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bible Study

Elders: Tom Seigworth, Rod Thomas, Allan Seigworth

Sunday, January 14th, 2018

Serving Today

Announcer:	David N.
Song Leader:	Dave H.
1 st Prayer:	Doug
Table:	Rod
Serving:	Gary, Chris, Scott, Doug, sub: Brian
2 nd Prayer:	Allan
Scripture:	Don
Sermon:	Randy
Closing Prayer:	Rod

Serving Tonight

Announcer:	David N.
Song Leader:	Allan
1 st Prayer:	Dave H.
Sermon:	Randy
Closing Prayer:	Don

Wednesday Night Song Leaders:

1/3 - Evan
1/10 - Rod
1/17 - Dave
1/24 - Allan
1/31 - Dick

♥ Those to remember:

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| Al Emery | Jack Wyatt |
| Ken Thomas | Jim Metts |
| Irene Schmidt | Milly Park |
| Shawn Simpson – hip cancer | Paul and Linda Smith |
| Tom and May Seigworth | Rod Thomas |
| Kevin Hughes | Betty Hughes |
| Norma Thomas | June Rhines |
| Linda Reichart | Adam Neill |
| Norma Brown | Mike LaVan |
| Tim and Mary Ann Chilton | Justin Seigworth |
| Nick Van Horn – 20-yr-old with cancer | Florence Homolek |
| Landon Fawcett – Paul Smith’s grandson | |
| Matthew and Michael LaVan | |



“Pray without ceasing” - I Thess. 5:17

Notes

- WELCOME to all our visitors today! Thank you for worshipping with us.
- Mark Everett was baptized last Sunday evening. We are blessed to welcome another brother in Christ!
- Donna Dunkel requested prayers for Karen Grout. She had heart surgery.
- Florence Smith was diagnosed with a blood infection. She had been hospitalized for care.
- Carrie Burkett suffered a cerebral stroke last Monday. She received care in Pittsburgh but is now home recuperating.
- There will be a brief meeting today after morning services for all ladies of the church. Pam would like to

discuss starting a ladies’ Bible class and working on service projects.

- Megan Burley is having a baby shower for Abbey Chi on January 28th from 2 – 4 at the Heritage House. Please RSVP to Megan at 648-0178.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



1/14 – Becky Griffin

Memory Verse of the Week:

All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being.

I Corinthians 10:23,24

Bible Question of the Week:

In what town did Jesus heal the only son of a widow as the funeral procession was coming out of the town gate?

Last Week’s Question and Answer:

More than forty bound themselves under oath that they would not eat or drink until they had killed whom?

Paul, Acts 23:13

A reporter interviewed a 103-year-old woman. “And what is the best thing about being 103?” the reporter asked. She simply replied, “No peer pressure.”