

Why Are You So  
Strict On Morals?

# I. We Appreciate Good Company

# God's people were strict because God is strict – Ep.5:15

- Ps.119:136, rivers...
- Jer.9:1, fountain...
- Lk.19:41-42, wept...
- Ac.20:30-31, with tears...
- Ro.9:1, continual grief...
- 2 Co.2:4, affliction, anguish, tears
- Ph.3:18, tell you even weeping...

I. We Appreciate Good Company

II. We Accept Gospel's Conclusions

## This strictness shows –

- We can know God's moral standard
- Doctrinal error leads to moral error
- Not enough to believe truth. Mt.23:3
- Gospel's influence suffers when believers fall
- Enemies of cross are untouched by suffering of Christ
- Apostasy affects those who love souls

I. We Appreciate Good Company

II. We Accept Gospel's Conclusions

III. We Advance God's Conditions

# Illustrated – Social Drinking

Some try to justify social drinking

1. John 2, Jesus turned water to wine

What proves too much, proves nothing

a. Feasted till wine ran out (10)

b. Jesus added 120+ gallons

c. Pr.23:...31, don't even look

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‘Wine’ determined by context

- a. Is.65:8 (Nu.13:23-24)
- b. Jn.2, unimpaired judgment
- c. They have ‘drunk freely’ (v.10)
- d. If this mean they are drunk . . . forget social drinking



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‘Wine’ that makes drunk, Ep.5:18 –  
‘to make drunk, or to grow drunk’ (an  
inceptive verb, marking the process or  
the state expressed in No.1), to become  
intoxicated’ – Vine 186; Trench, 238

a. Inceptive: giving emphasis to the  
beginning of the verbal action – DeMoss, 71

# Illustrated – Social Drinking

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1. John 2, 3: ‘Don’t even start the process of getting drunk.’

‘Wine’ then is used in the sense of ‘to make one drunk’ (an inceptive verb marking the process or the state expressed in No.1), to become intoxicated’ – Vine 186; Trench, 238

a. Inceptive: giving emphasis to the beginning of the verbal action – DeMoss, 71

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‘Wine’ that makes drunk, Ep.5:18

b. ‘The present imperative calls for discontinuation of an action in progress or prohibition of a habitual action’ – RR

c. ‘When does the process of intoxication begin?’ With the first drink of alcohol, it begins to affect your brain’ – AA

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‘Wine’ that makes drunk, Ep.5:18

d. The contrast:

Drunk  
with wine

vs

Filled  
with Spirit

How?

One drink at a time

How?

One word at a time



# Illustrated – Social Drinking

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1. John 2, Jesus turned water to wine
2. 1 Tim.5:23

Drink a little 'Wine'

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> command: quit water. He had not been drinking even a 'little' wine
- b. Why drink 'little' wine? Bad water...
- c. 2<sup>nd</sup> command: 'use' (1:8) little wine...
- d. Their wine could not compare to modern

## Social Drinking? (1/3)

To consume amount of alcohol in two martinis, ancients would have to drink twenty-two glasses.

BUT: two glasses of many modern wines contain as much alcohol as one glass of whiskey.

## Social Drinking? (2/3)

‘Wine. Beer. Wine cooler. Cocktail. Mixed drink. Different kinds of drinks, different amounts of alcohol, right?’

‘Wrong! It’s a mistake many people make. In truth, standard service sizes of all alcohol beverages – beer, wine, and liquor – are equal in alcohol strength and effect on the body’ – National Consumer’s League.



## Social Drinking? (3/3)

‘ . . . This means that a typical or standard serving of beer, wine, or spirits each contain 0.6 fluid ounces of alcohol. . . .

Binge drinking happens when someone's blood alcohol concentration reaches 0.8% or higher. In order to reach 0.8%, men typically have to drink five standard drinks (women, four)’ – National Consumers League



# Dangers of alcohol

1. Leads to more sin, tragedy.  
Pr.23:29-35 (Gn.9; Gn.19)
2. Harms body
3. Harms family
4. Ruins influence
5. Disobeys God. 1 Pt.4:3,7

# 1 Peter 4:3

For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries

A social gathering at which wine was served, *drinking party* – BDAG.

‘The drinking bout, the banquet, the symposium, not of necessity excessive’ –Tr.

# 1 Peter 4:7

But the end of all things is at hand;  
therefore be serious and watchful  
in your prayers

‘To be sober, to not be drunk’ – L-N.

‘To drink no wine’ – IGEL.

‘Abstain from wine’ – Abbott-Smith; Kubo.

# 'Grape juice would ferment'

'If you wish to have must [grape juice] all year, put grape juice in an amphora and seal the cork w. pitch; sink it in a fishpond. After 30 days take it out. It will be grape juice for a whole year' – Cato, *Agri Cultura* (ZPBD, p. 895)

# 'Grape juice would ferment'

'A Greek wine ship of the 2nd century BC found by divers off the southern coast of France several years ago contained a great number of wine flasks that had been sealed so tight that after more than 2000 years the sea water had not seeped into them' – R.C.Foster, 1220