Justifying the Social Drink

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INTRODUCTION

- As a Christian, as a child of God, Jesus is to be the king of my life.
- It is important that we reconcile all the information of Scripture that pertains to that particular subject.
- So let's be clear. The forfeiture of sobriety is sin.

1 Jesus Turned Water Into Wine

John 2; Proverbs 20:1; Isaiah 56:12

- Whatever John 2 is telling us about wine consumption, I would attest that it is not something that is opposite or contradictory to Proverbs 20 and verse 1.
- Wine is a mocker. Whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.
- When the Bible speaks of wine, both in the old and new testament, it is simply speaking of the product of the grape.
- Wine, when it is spoken of negatively, is linked to stronger drink. An intoxicating substance.
- There is no hint of a lack of sobriety from anyone in the story in John chapter 2.

2 Strong Drink in Deuteronomy 14

Deuteronomy 14:24–26; Isaiah 5:11–12; Isaiah 28:7

- They will spend the money for whatever your heart desires for oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink.
- Woe to those who rise early in the morning that they may pursue shekar.
- Now he's not saying consume whatever your heart desires.
- There's no evidence that anyone was intoxicated in this feast that they ate before the Lord.

3 Proverbs 31: Not for Kings to Drink Wine

Proverbs 31:4–7; Revelation 22:11

- It is not for kings to drink wine or for rulers to desire strong drink.
- This passage is saying kings need to be sober to do what they do.
- Give strong drink to him who is perishing, and wine to him whose life is bitter.
- I don't think you have Lemuel saying this is a moral course of action.

4 What If the Consumption Is Moderate and Controlled?

1 Timothy 5:23

- Even in the early stages of consumption, judgment begins to be impaired.

- Even when the Bible references negatively strong drink, it might have simply been 5 to 6% alcoholic content.
- I know Jesus would not promote a lack of sobriety. But I know your wine was not his wine.
- Take a little wine for your stomach's sake and drink no longer water exclusively.
- He gives us principles. He gives us information that we're to make sound judgments because we want Jesus to be the king of our life.
- Examine things carefully, and that's what I'm trying to do with you tonight. Hold fast to that which is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

THE CHALLENGE

If you've been drinking, even very moderately, I want you to ask yourself this question. Why? Why are you doing it?

MY NOTES