

Morning Sermon July 19, 2015

“About Wine”

Deuteronomy 32:31-33; Deuteronomy 33:26-29

The history of wine in Scripture starts in Genesis with Noah, drunk and naked in his tent – Genesis 9:21 & :24. It is brought with bread to Abram by Melchizedek who was both the king of Salem and priest of the God Most High – Genesis 14:18. It is used by Lot’s daughters to fool their father to bed – Genesis 19:32-35.

Jacob brings it also to his meal prepared for his father Isaac, as he deceives his father into giving him the blessing – Genesis 27:25.

Plenty of grain and wine and wine are part of that blessing Jacob receives from Isaac – Genesis 27:28

The record of wine in Genesis concludes with Jacob’s blessing of Judah, which ultimately points to Christ –

¹¹ **Binding his donkey to the vine, and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes.** ¹² **His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.** (Genesis 49:11-12 NKJ)

These verses are speaking about a super abundance of wine, how?

1. A donkey tied to a vine would not only eat the grapes but usually the entire vine. This verse implies a vine beyond the appetite of a donkey and probably so many such vines that it does not matter if a vine is ate.
2. Washing garments in wine and his clothes in the blood of grapes, repeats the emphasis!

Of course these verses also point to Judah’s KING of Kings descendent Who would make water into wine and Who would provide a better washing and a better drink – John 2:1-11;

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)

Thirsty people are promised God’s Spirit - (John 7:37-39 NKJ)

¹⁸ **And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,** (Ephesians 5:18 NKJ)

Scripture speaks a lot about wine, just printing out only the Bible verses which in the NKJV include the word wine in 14 Calibri (Body) font, gave me 22 pages. Wine is symbolic of Christ’s blood in the Lord’s Supper. It is spoken of both literally and symbolically throughout Scripture so one sermon could not possibly convey all God would teach us about wine and using wine, but I will try.

I. Dangerous wine –

³¹ **For their rock is not like our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges.** ³² **For their vine is of the vine of Sodom and of the fields of Gomorrah; their grapes are grapes of gall, Their clusters are bitter.**

³³ **Their wine is the poison of serpents, and the cruel venom of cobras.** (Deuteronomy 32:31-33 NKJ)

1. A biblical view of wine includes a definite dark side –

A. It had its role in the first known sin after the flood – Genesis 9:20-29

B. It had its role in a great sin after the fiery judgment of Sodom – Genesis 19:32-35

C. It was forbidden to priests when they go into the tabernacle of meeting, by death – Leviticus 10:9; not for kings either - Proverbs 31:4

D. Belshazzar was drinking it on the day of his condemnation – Daniel 5:1-4; :23

E. God’s wrath is symbolically compared to wine –

⁸ **For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth Drain and drink down.** (Psalm 75:8 NKJ)

“If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. (Revelation 14:9-10 NKJ)

2. What makes wine so dangerous?

A. **Not having a rock like our Rock – ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:4 NKJ)**

Drinking (wine) if you do not have a Rock (Christ) to stand on, MEANS SINKING, falling –

²⁴ "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (Matthew 7:24-27 NKJ)

It means slipping away –

Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things to come hasten upon them.' (Deuteronomy 32:35 NKJ)

B. *Their vine is the vine of Sodom –*

What is the vine of Sodom – no rules, no Ruler, no "sayings of" Christ Matthew 7 being done, just FUN, just pleasure, just ease, constant leisure!

C. *This wine is poison – Deuteronomy 32:33; Proverbs 20:1; Isaiah 5:11-12; :22; 28:7*

D. *What this wine is symbolic of sin, godless, unruly luxurious living and fornication –*

² **And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³ "For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." (Revelation 18:2-3 NKJ)**

E. *This wine also represents the stupor that comes due to the judgment of sin - Isaiah 29:9-10*

II. *Delightful wine –*

²⁶ "There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, Who rides the heavens to help you, And in His excellency on the clouds. ²⁷ The eternal God is your refuge, And underneath are the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you, And will say, 'Destroy!' ²⁸ Then Israel shall dwell in safety, The fountain of Jacob alone, In a land of grain and new wine; His heavens shall also drop dew. ²⁹ Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD, The shield of your help And the

sword of your majesty! Your enemies shall submit to you, And you shall tread down their high places." (Deuteronomy 33:26-29 NKJ)

1. *This is wine (Deuteronomy 33:28) in its proper place, hardly noticed in verses praising God!*

2. *Jesus made water into wine at the wedding in Cana – John 2:1-11 It is meant for special occasions, celebrations – Love is better than wine – Song of Solomon 4:10*

3. *Jesus ordained the use of wine as part of our Lord's Supper – (Matthew 26:26-29 NKJ)*

A. *It is symbolic of His shed blood – Matthew 26:28*

B. *He will not drink it again until we are all with Him in Heaven – Matthew 26:29 Yet, He commands us to drink it ...*

4. *It was created by God for our happiness –*

¹⁵ **And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart. (Psalm 104:15 NKJ)**

5. *It was to be brought to God by Israel with their offerings – Numbers 15:5, 7, 10. In certain proportions, a sweet smelling savor, part of our fellowship with God – Revelation 3:20b*

6. *It was to be enjoyed by the priests and their families - Numbers 18:12*

7. *It was to be enjoyed before the LORD – Deuteronomy 14:23 & 26*

8. *It was a reward for faith and obedience to God's commands, a reward of wisdom – Proverbs 3:1-10; Proverbs 9:1-5*

9. *Yet, it is a reward only for those who serve God faithfully - Jeremiah 13:12-16*

10. *It is to be understood as one of many blessings, the best being our relationship to God Himself – Deuteronomy 7:13; 14:23 & 26; 33:26-29*

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