

ALCOHOL & THE BIBLE

NOT AS PERCEIVED FROM TRADITIONAL BELIEFS

CHRIST'S FIRST MIRACLE (John 2:1-11)

(Note: The Greek word for 'wine' is 'Oinos' (oi-nos)
and means wine, not grape juice.)

"On the third day there was a wedding...

Jesus and His disciples were invited" (verses 1-2).

"When they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him,
'They have no wine'" (verse 3).

"Now there were set six waterpots of stone...
containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

Jesus said to them, 'fill the waterpots with water...'

And He said, 'draw some out now and take it
to the master of the feast.'

When the master had tasted the water that was made wine,
he called the bridegroom and said to him:

'Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine,
and when the guests have well drunk,
then they get the inferior wine;

but you have kept the good wine until now'" (verses 6-10).

GOOD FOR ILLNESS (1 Timothy 5:23)

"No longer drink only water,

but use a little wine for your stomach's sake,
and frequent infirmities."

SINCE CHRIST WENT TO ALL PEOPLE, SOME SARCASTICALLY CALLED HIM A 'WINEBIBBER' (Matthew 11:19)

"The Son of Man came eating and drinking,
and they say; 'Look a gluttonous and a winebibber,
a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'"

THE OLD TESTAMENT & THEIR FEAST TIMES (Deuteronomy 14:26)

(Note: The English words 'strong drink' in Hebrew is 'Shekar' (sha-kar)
and means strong drink, intoxicating liquor, drink like wine
made from barley or distilled from honey or dates.)

"And you shall spend your money for whatever your heart desires...
for wine, or for strong drink..."

DRUNKENNESS IS CONDEMNED

"Who has woe, sorrow, contentions, complaints, wounds
without cause... Those who linger long at wine" (Proverbs 23:29-30).

"Let us walk properly...not in revelry and drunkenness..." (Romans 13:13).

"Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are...murders, drunkenness...
those who practice such will not inherit the Kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19,21).