

## King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries  
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

## Filling in the Gaps – Lesson 19 Consumption of Alcohol

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This Bible Lesson is going to be about beer, liquor, whiskey, wine, and strong drink. Alcohol has been the ruin of millions of men/women throughout history. Battered spouses, hungry children, broken homes, death, destruction, perversion, wickedness, unbridled lust, lawless behavior, and despair all flow out of the booze bottle, the devils liquid poison.

Throughout the history of the world strong drink has been the downfall of nations. The Bible says in Proverbs 14:34, *Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.* Let's see how many "good times" were gained through the consumption of alcohol over the years.

- Isaiah 28:1 says drunkenness destroyed Ephraim and turned her glory into a faded flower. *Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!* These people were overcome by wine before they were overcome by their neighbors.
- Drunkenness was the degrading factor for the downfall of Nineveh. Nahum 1:10 *For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.*
- Drunkenness was one of the sins for which God destroyed Samaria and sent the ten northern tribes of Israel into worldwide chastisement and captivity. Amos 4:1 and Amos 6:1, 6 *Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink. Woe to them that are at ease in Zion... That drink wine in bowls.*
- Drunkenness paved the way for the defeat of the Amalekites, following their looting of Ziklag (1 Samuel 30:16-17). *And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.*
- Drunkenness brought defeat to Ben-Hadad and thirty-two allied kings in the first battle between Syria and Israel in the days of Ahab (1 Kings 20:12, 21). *And it came to pass, when Benhadad heard this message, as he was drinking, he and the kings in the pavilions, that he said unto his*

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*servants, Set yourselves in array. And they set themselves in array against the city. And the king of Israel went out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Syrians with a great slaughter.*

- Drunkenness marked the downfall of Babylon. You may recall in Daniel 5:23-31 that Belshazzar told his lords, wives, and concubines, "Drink wine and praise the gods of gold, of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood and of stone." That same night, he was killed, and Darius the Median took his kingdom. The Bible declares in Proverbs 31:4-5, *it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.*
- For eight months at the beginning of World War II, French and German soldiers faced each other across the Maginot Line. It was a period of inactivity in the war. Rigid rules were enforced in the German army against drinking and smoking. On the other side, the French soldiers reveled in unbridled lust, drinking, and dissipation. Reliable reports revealed that there were eight hundred and fourteen French soldiers confined in the hospital at one time, with delirium tremens. They were drunkards of the worst sort. Then the zero hour struck. Germany swept around the line, blitzed into France, and in a few days, it was all over. The French army was defeated by a liquor bottle. The soldiers were drunk and could not fight."

In light of these historical accounts, one trembles at what the future holds for the USA. Seventeen million Americans are said to be alcoholics. Americans spend \$50 billion a year on alcohol, while alcohol related problems cost the national economy \$68.6 billion each year due to lost man hours, accidents, etc. The leading cause of mental retardation is alcohol use during pregnancy. Twenty-five thousand Americans die each year in alcohol related accidents. That is seventy every day. Police estimate that on a weekend night out 1 of 10 drivers is drunk. Alcohol consumption is the leading cause of death for ages 15-24. Do wine, beer, and strong drink lead to "a good time?"

Consider:

83% of fire fatalities are alcohol related.

68% of drownings are alcohol related.

80% of suicides are alcohol related.

40% of industrial accidents are alcohol related.

86% of murders are alcohol related.

65% of all child abuse cases are alcohol related.

Only someone under the influence of the one whom Jesus called a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44) would call that a party.

At least 200,000 Americans die each year as a result of somebody else's alcohol consumption. Think of that! Two hundred thousand times a year grief,

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sorrow, heartache, anguish, and pain visit the home of a mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister or friend to tell them the poison of strong drink has snuffed out another life. In spite of this horrible toll of crime, violence, and death, Americans spend \$72 per person per year on alcohol. This is twice the total of all contributions to all religious and charitable works. The government is concerned about opioids, cigarettes, and firearms. What strong delusion keeps the population of a country from crying out against the greatest killer in the land?

1 out of 18 persons who take a drink will become an alcoholic. There is no way of knowing who it will be. Therefore, the only way of being sure you will not live a drunkard's miserable life and die a drunkard's dreadful death, is to TOTALLY ABSTAIN from alcoholic beverages.

There are millions of people starving around the world. Americans enjoy the blood-bought freedom and the prosperity so graciously afforded us by a merciful God, yet we turn to the gods of wine, beer, and strong drink as our nation offers its manhood on the altar of booze. We are following the path of bygone empires, a broad road that leads to destruction. The Biblical prophets have a great deal to say about strong drink.

You frequently hear foolish people say, "I think the preacher ought to preach the Bible and stay away from the alcohol issue." Alcohol is a sin issue.

- Isaiah preached against it. (Isaiah 5:11). *Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!* (Isaiah 5:22-23) *Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!*
- Hosea preached against it (Hosea 4:11), *Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.* Have you given your heart to Jesus? Wine will take your heart away from Him. Beer will take your heart away from Him. God says the bottle is as deadly as the whore. With every drop, your heart is moved away from the Lord.
- Joel preached against it. He lived in a society filled with liquor, drinking and corrupt voting, with juvenile delinquency. He said in Joel 3:3, *And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.*

How can anyone justify the consumption of alcohol, when the word of God says a man will sell his own son or daughter into sin to satisfy his appetite for strong drink? People who drink will someday neglect their responsibilities to satisfy their desire to drink alcohol. Many families go without groceries their babies go without formula or diapers because alcohol comes first.

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- Habakkuk preached against it. (Habakkuk 2:15). *Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!*

Young lady, let me tell you the truth. When a man offers you a drink, he wants your clothes to come off. Bartenders beware! God pronounced a woe **upon** you. Parents beware! Keeping alcohol in your refrigerator or in your cabinet lures your son or daughter into experimenting with their first drink. Is that what you want on your conscience when they end up ruining their lives by that poison? You will be paving the road to hell and misery for your children. Do you really want to have that on your conscience? You will give an answer to Almighty God for that someday.

- Amos preached against it, predicting that the people would seek to muzzle their prophets on the issue. (Amos 2:11-12,) *And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the LORD. But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not.*
- Micah preached against liquor and foretold that it would be fashionable and popular for false ministers to favor it. (Micah 2:11), *If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.*

People who drink, love a priest or a preacher that will drink with them. Churches have beer booths at their fall festivals, allow a bar to be set up in the fellowship hall for wedding receptions, buy the minister a bottle of wine for Christmas, and wonder why those of us who believe the Bible put them in the same boat with the drunkards at the Masonic Lodge.

It is the obligation of all Christians to preach and warn people (Proverbs 20:1) *Wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.* Look at the records in the Bible of the personal tragedies that resulted from drunkenness.

- (Genesis 9:20-27). Noah's feet were hardly dry before he *began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent* as a result, he brought a curse upon his son.
- Lot reared his daughters amidst the vexing sin of Sodom. Among those sins was drinking (Luke 17:28). When he was finally pulled out of the city and ended up in a cave, his own daughters said, *Come, let us make our father drink wine.* The reader well knows the shameful and disgusting outcome of that drinking binge (Genesis 19:29-38).
- (1 Samuel 25:36-38) Nabal, the heir of Caleb, died in a drunken debauchery.

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- (2 Samuel 11: 13) Drunkenness played its part in David's sins of adultery and the murder of Uriah. *And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.*
- (2 Samuel 13:28) Handsome young Absalom employed strong drink when he murdered his half-brother Amnon. *Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.*
- (1 Kings 16:9) Elah, king of Israel, was assassinated while he was drunk. *And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him, as he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza steward of his house in Tirzah.*
- (Esther 1:10-19). Queen Vashti was dethroned by wicked old Ahasuerus because she would not display her body as a floorshow in his wild, drunken party.
- (Ephesians 5:18). It evidently marred the fellowship of the church of Ephesus. The Holy Spirit had to demand of them, *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit*

Proverbs 20:1, quoted earlier, *Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise* If you think you can consume alcohol without harming your relationship to God, you are deceived.

- Proverbs 23:29-33. *Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.*

When you think of alcohol, your mind always goes to the question of how much is too much? What does the word of God clearly and plainly state? LOOK NOT UPON IT. How long should you hold a rattle snake?

Jesus warned us concerning strong drink. He said that at the time of His return, conditions would be similar to those in the days of Noah and Lot. (Luke 21:34). *And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and DRUNKENNESS, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.*

This verse here should convict anyone who calls themselves a Christian to repent - Galatians 5:19-21, *Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders,*

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***drunkenness, revellings, and such like.*** God puts drunkenness right next to murder in His Holy Bible. The Bible goes on to say *..as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God..*

Let's talk about the myth of myth of moderation. Someone says, "I'm not a drunkard. I drink only in moderation." There is no difference in your standing before God. The Bible puts adultery, fornication, stealing, idolatry, hatred, murder, extortion, sedition, coveting, reveling, and drunkenness in the same category - as lusts of the flesh. Consider adultery in moderation, worshiping idols in moderation, coveting in moderation, or any of the other sins mentioned in moderation. They are all works of the flesh. None of them have a place in a Christian's life. They are not to be indulged in at all, to any degree. The Bible is very definite on this subject. It declares in Galatians 5:24 that they who are Christ's have crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts. Take a look at what Romans 13:13-14 says, *Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.*

Do you want to be used by the devil to offend a weaker brother? Romans 14:21 *It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.* At this point in the Bible lesson, I hope you are not thinking, "Well, I do not drink wine, I drink beer." The Bible states that if it contains alcohol, you are not supposed to even look at it (Proverbs 23:31).

In Proverbs 31:4, *It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink.* If you are saved, born again, that makes you a king (small 'k') and a priest 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 1:5-6; 5:10. Your new birth makes you part of the royal family, God's family. God is our King of kings and Lord of lords; therefore, according to the Bible, strong drink and wine are not for you.

Examine Proverbs 31:6-7. *Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.* If you are saved, you would not have a heavy heart. My friend, you are washed in the precious blood and on your way to heaven, where you will sit at Jesus' feet and enjoy the blessings of heaven for eternity. Only lost people would have a heavy heart. 7 *Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.* If you were Hell bound, dead in trespasses and sins, a child of the devil, I can understand why you would need a drink to get you through the day. My dear friend, wine is not for you. Strong drink is not for you. Your days of misery are over. It's time for you to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, live a life filled with the Spirit, and leave the devil's drinks alone.

Notes

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**Filling in the Gaps – Lesson 19**  
**Consumption of Alcohol**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Questions with (\*) require scripture, including the T/F.

1. Explain why a born again child of God should never drink?\*
2. How many Americans are alcoholics?
3. What does God say about drinking in moderation?\*
4. Why do the commercials paint a pretty picture about consuming alcohol?
5. Explain Genesis 3:4-5 as it relates to this Bible lesson?\* (use the back of this page if necessary)
6. What happen to the French during WWII?
7. What prophets preached against the consumption of alcohol?\*

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8. What happens to people when they get drunk?\*
9. Why should every born again child of God preach and teach against any kind of consumption of alcohol?\*
10. How much do Americans spend on alcohol?
11. Explain Habakkuk 2:15?
12. Why is alcohol as dangerous as RX pain killers to keep around the house, especially when children are present?
13. Explain Proverbs 31:4, 6-7\*. (use the back of this page to explain your answer)

**True/false**

- It is OK for a Christian to sip a little champagne at an occasion like a wedding or New Year's Eve.
- God considers drunkenness the same as murder.
- As a born again child of God, we should not even look at alcohol.

**Scripture memorization**

Proverbs 20:1; Habakkuk 2:15; Romans 14:21

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

any questions?