

Spiritual Enemy Number One: the Flesh, Part 14

- Know your spiritual enemies!
- The controversial history of alcohol in Christendom.
- No Old Testament prohibition for drunkenness.
- Old Testament prescribed uses: for those dying or bitter (Prov. 31:6); for those who are sad (Ps. 104:15).
- New Testament prescription (1 Tim.5:23).
- The New Testament prohibition: “**Stop being drunk with wine where in is excess . . .**” (Eph. 5:18 cf. Tit. 1:6).

“**Now the works of the flesh are plainly seen . . .**” 17 works plus such like (Gal. 5:19): Sexual works; Religious works; Emotional works.

Self-destructive Works

16. Drunkenness(es), inebriation that effects command of motor skills, control of emotions, and mental acumen.

1. Called unrighteousness (1 Cor. 6:9-10).
2. There is a difference between drinking and being drunk (Lu. 12:45).
3. Associated with the cares of “this life” (Lu. 21:34).
4. Accompanies disorderly, uncontrolled behavior (Rom. 13:13).
5. Has obvious outward signs (Acts 2:13, 15).
6. Is an activity of the “night” (1 Thes. 5:7).
7. Metaphorically used to indicate control over emotions (Rev. 17:2, 6).

17. Revelings, loud, when inhibitions ebb (*usually due to intoxication*) and it is evident normal behavior has been abandoned. *Comic*

1. An outcome of drunkenness (Rom. 13:13).
2. Not a behavior for a Christian (1 Pet. 4:3).

The Governing Principles

1. Christian witness to the saved (Rom. 14:1-8; 12-17).
2. Christian witness to spirit beings (1 Cor. 10:16-22; 1 Cor. 4:9).
3. Christian witness to the unsaved (1 Cor. 10:23-33).

Both drunkenness and reveling are works of the flesh that Christians are to forsake after salvation; they are harmful to one’s Christian witness and are unrighteous (Rom. 1:18).