

As in the days of Noah & Lot

Community Bible Study
with Pastor Grant Williams

Part 8

“Did you know” that the Bible speaks to every “thing” in our lives? To what is happening personally, government, politics, education? One of the “things” God’s Word instructs us on is alcohol - did you know it is very specific and not “who can know” or “God doesn’t care”. During our Bible study we have looked in the Old and New Testaments and how they both tell you and I that those found habitually righteous will be raptured away or gathered up together prior to the 7 year Tribulation.

Jesus said as it was in the Days of Noah and Lot so it shall be when He returns. He gave warning that judgment was coming, He tells you and I what we must do to escape the judgment and the consequences if we choose habitual obedience or disobedience.

God’s Word is not ambiguous regarding sin and in the New Testament Jesus, Jude, John, Peter and Paul continually reminded the Church or those who are followers of Jesus Christ, the Word about the judgement and the rapture.

The book of Revelation gives us additional insight on when the Rapture takes place following John’s instruction to the churches in Chapter 2 and 3, “I know thy works” or “acts of obedience” or “righteousness”. After the conclusion of chapter 3 there is no more mention of the Church (the ones who were alive and righteous at the time of the Rapture) on the earth, they have been raptured.

In Revelation 3, with the condition of different churches representing different kinds of “christians” or church attendees at the Time of the End. God’s Word is very clear with the outcome of those who are found habitually righteous and those who are not.

Revelation 3 AMPC

*1 And to the angel (messenger) of the assembly (church) in Sardis write: These are the words of Him Who has the seven Spirits of God [[a]the sevenfold Holy Spirit] and the seven stars: **I know your record and what you are doing; you are supposed to be alive, but [in reality] you are dead.***

*2 **Rouse yourselves and keep awake, and strengthen and invigorate what remains and is on the point of dying; for I have not found a thing that you have done [any work of yours] meeting the requirements of My God or perfect in His sight.***

*3 **So call to mind the lessons you received and heard; continually lay them to heart and obey them, and repent. In case you will not rouse yourselves and keep awake and watch, I will come upon you like a thief, and you will not know or suspect at what hour I will come.***

*4 Yet you still have a few [persons'] names in Sardis **who have not soiled their clothes, and they shall walk with Me in white, because they are worthy and deserving.***

*5 **Thus shall he who conquers (is victorious) be clad in white garments, and I will not erase or blot out his name from the Book of Life; I will acknowledge him [as Mine] and I will confess his name openly before My Father and before His angels.***

*6 **He who is able to hear, let him listen to and heed what the [Holy] Spirit says to the assemblies (churches).***

7 And to the angel (messenger) of the assembly (church) in Philadelphia write: These are the words of the Holy One, the True One, He Who has the key of David, Who opens and no one shall shut, Who shuts and no one shall open:

*8 **I know your [record of] works and what you are doing. See! I have set before you a door wide open which no one is able to shut; I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept My Word and guarded My message and have not renounced or denied My name.***

9 Take note! I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet and learn and acknowledge that I have loved you.

10 Because you have guarded and kept My word of patient endurance [have held fast the [b]lesson of My patience with the [c]expectant endurance that I give you], I also will keep you [safe] from the hour of trial (testing) which is coming on the whole world to try those who dwell upon the earth.

11 I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one may rob you and deprive you of your crown.

12 He who overcomes (is victorious), I will make him a pillar in the sanctuary of My God; he shall never be put out of it or go out of it, and I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which descends from My God out of heaven, and My own new name.

13 He who can hear, let him listen to and heed what the Spirit says to the assemblies (churches).

14 And to the angel (messenger) of the assembly (church) in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the trusty and faithful and true Witness, the Origin and Beginning and Author of God's creation:

15 I know your [record of] works and what you are doing; you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot!

16 So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth!

17 For you say, I am rich; I have prospered and grown wealthy, and I am in need of nothing; and you do not realize and understand that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

18 Therefore I counsel you to purchase from Me gold refined and tested by fire, that you may be [truly] wealthy, and white clothes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nudity from being seen, and salve to put on your eyes, that you may see.

19 Those whom I [dearly and tenderly] love, I tell their faults and convict and convince and reprove and chasten [I discipline and instruct them]. So be enthusiastic and in earnest and burning with zeal and repent [changing your mind and attitude].

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears and listens to and heeds My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will eat with him, and he [will eat] with Me.

21 He who overcomes (is victorious), I will grant him to sit beside Me on My throne, as I Myself overcame (was victorious) and sat down beside My Father on His throne.

22 He who is able to hear, let him listen to and heed what the [Holy] Spirit says to the assemblies (churches).

Revelation 3 KJV

1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. 14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

God is the one blotting the names of those who were once following Him but now have decided to no longer be obedient to His Word. They are living in iniquity or unrepentant sin which will not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. That is Bible, God's Word never changes.

Remember, the New Testament writers were answering the questions: Did we miss the rapture? Is this the Tribulation? If not, what must we do to be ready... we don't want to miss it!

Peter, Paul, Jude, John, James and Jesus told you and I what we must do as well and what the spiritual condition of the Church would be like. They all warned you and I to not be deceived or duped by false teaching regarding sin, judgment, righteousness and the "things" or signs that were to come that have already been prophesied in the Old Testament.

2 Peter 3 AMPC

1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,

2 That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).

3 To begin with, you must know and understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires

4 And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.

5 For they willfully overlook and forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,

6 Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.

7 But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been stored up (reserved) for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people.

8 Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the *[[a]material]* elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.

11 Since all these things are thus [b]in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout and godly qualities,

12 While you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the *[[c]material]* elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire?

13 But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness (uprightness, freedom from sin, and right standing with God) is to abide.

14 So, beloved, since you are expecting these things, be eager to be found by Him [at His coming] without spot or blemish and at peace [in serene confidence, [d]free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].

15 And consider that the long-suffering of our Lord *[[e]His slowness in avenging wrongs and judging the world]* is salvation (*[[f]that which is conducive to the soul's safety)*, even as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the spiritual insight given him,

16 Speaking of this as he does in all of his letters. There are some things in those [epistles of Paul] that are difficult to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist and misconstrue to their own [g]utter destruction, just as [they distort and misinterpret] the rest of the Scriptures.

17 Let me warn you therefore, beloved, that knowing these things beforehand, you should be on your guard, lest you be carried away by the error of lawless and wicked [persons and] fall from your own [present] firm condition [your own steadfastness of mind].

18 But grow in grace (undeserved favor, spiritual strength) and [h]recognition and knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (the Messiah). To Him [be] glory (honor, majesty, and splendor) both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (so be it)!

2 Peter 3 KJV

1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Jude wrote a parallel letter addressing what was happening to the New Testament believers at that time and for you and I to read today.

Jude AMPC

1 Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and brother of James, [writes this letter] to those who are called (chosen), dearly loved by God the Father and separated (set apart) and kept for Jesus Christ:

2 May mercy, [soul] peace, and love be multiplied to you.

3 Beloved, my whole concern was to write to you in regard to our common salvation. [But] I found it necessary and was impelled to write you and urgently appeal to and exhort [you] to contend for the faith which was once for all [a]handed down to the saints [the faith which is that sum of Christian belief which was delivered [b]verbally to the holy people of God].

4 For certain men have crept in stealthily [[c]gaining entrance secretly by a side door]. Their doom was predicted long ago, ungodly (impious, profane) persons who pervert the grace (the spiritual blessing and favor) of our God into lawlessness and wantonness and immorality, and disown and deny our sole Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

5 Now I want to remind you, though you were fully informed once for all, that though the Lord [at one time] delivered a people out of the land of Egypt, He subsequently destroyed those [of them] who did not believe [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him].

6 And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place—these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day.

7 [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.

8 Nevertheless in like manner, these dreamers also corrupt the body, scorn and reject authority and government, and revile and libel and scoff at [heavenly] glories (the glorious ones).

9 But when [even] the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, judicially argued (disputed) about the body of Moses, he dared not [presume to] bring an abusive condemnation against him, but [simply] said, The Lord rebuke you!

10 But these men revile (scoff and sneer at) anything they do not happen to be acquainted with and do not understand; and whatever they do understand physically [that which they know by mere instinct], like irrational beasts—by these they corrupt themselves and are destroyed (perish).

11 Woe to them! For they have run riotously in the way of Cain, and have abandoned themselves for the sake of gain [it offers them, following] the error of Balaam, and have perished in rebellion [like that] of Korah!

12 These are hidden reefs (elements of danger) in your love feasts, where they boldly feast sumptuously [carousing together in your midst], without scruples providing for themselves [alone]. They are clouds without water, swept along by the winds; trees, without fruit at the late autumn gathering time—twice (doubly) dead, [lifeless and] plucked up by the roots;

13 *Wild waves of the sea, flinging up the foam of their own shame and disgrace; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of eternal darkness has been reserved forever.*

14 *It was of these people, moreover, that Enoch in the seventh [generation] from Adam prophesied when he said, Behold, the Lord comes with His myriads of holy ones (ten thousands of His saints)*

15 *To execute judgment upon all and to convict all the impious (unholy ones) of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed [in such an] ungodly [way], and of all the severe (abusive, jarring) things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.*

16 *These are inveterate murmurers (grumblers) who complain [of their lot in life], going after their own desires [controlled by their passions]; their talk is boastful and arrogant, [and they claim to] admire men's persons and pay people flattering compliments to gain advantage.*

17 *But you must remember, beloved, the predictions which were made by the apostles (the special messengers) of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).*

18 *They told you beforehand, In the last days (in the end time) there will be scoffers [who seek to gratify their own unholy desires], following after their own ungodly passions.*

19 *It is these who are [agitators] setting up distinctions and causing divisions—merely sensual [creatures, carnal, worldly-minded people], devoid of the [Holy] Spirit and destitute of any higher spiritual life.*

20 *But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [[d]make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;*

21 *Guard and keep yourselves in the love of God; expect and patiently wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah)—[which will bring you] unto life eternal.*

22 *And refute [so as to] convict some who dispute with you, and on some have mercy who waver and doubt.*

23 *[Strive to] save others, snatching [them] out of [the] fire; on others take pity [but] with fear, loathing even the garment spotted by the flesh and polluted by their sensuality.*

24 Now to Him Who is able to keep you without stumbling or slipping or falling, and to present [you] unblemished (blameless and faultless) before the presence of His glory in triumphant joy and exultation [with unspeakable, ecstatic delight]—

25 To the one only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory (splendor), majesty, might and dominion, and power and authority, before all time and now and forever (unto all the ages of eternity). Amen (so be it).

Jude KJV

1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. 8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

10 *But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.*

11 *Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.*

12 *These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;*

13 *Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.*

14 *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*

15 *To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. 16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.*

17 *But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

18 *How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.*

19 *These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,*

21 *Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

22 *And of some have compassion, making a difference:*

23 *And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

24 *Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*

25 *To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*

Jesus commanded us to know the signs but He also said “If you love me keep My commands”. He, along with the rest of the New Testament writers, continuously said to the believer: repent, be prepared, we are not promised tomorrow (death) or the Rapture could take place at any moment when we see all these “things” coming to pass all at the same time.

What good is it to study and know all the signs but not be ready? Because we are living with inequity or unrepentant sin. Jesus and all the New Testament writers spoke of holiness, striving for perfection, getting rid of the sin and friends that hold us down.

Here’s Paul’s instruction to Pastor Timothy on how to preach and teach to the End Times church.

2 Timothy 4:1-8 AMPC

1 I charge [you] in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who is to judge the living and the dead, and by (in the light of) His coming and His kingdom:

2 Herald and preach the Word! Keep your sense of urgency [stand by, be at hand and ready], whether the opportunity seems to be favorable or unfavorable. [Whether it is convenient or inconvenient, whether it is welcome or unwelcome, you as preacher of the Word are to show people in what way their lives are wrong.] And convince them, rebuking and correcting, warning and urging and encouraging them, being unflagging and inexhaustible in patience and teaching.

3 For the time is coming when [people] will not tolerate (endure) sound and wholesome instruction, but, having ears itching [for something pleasing and gratifying], they will gather to themselves one teacher after another to a considerable number, chosen to satisfy their own liking and to foster the errors they hold,

4 And will turn aside from hearing the truth and wander off into myths and man-made fictions.

5 As for you, be calm and cool and steady, accept and suffer unflinchingly every hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fully perform all the duties of your ministry.

6 For I am already about to be sacrificed [my life is about to be poured out as a drink offering]; the time of my [spirit's] release [from the body] is at hand and I will soon go free.

7 I have fought the good (worthy, honorable, and noble) fight, I have finished the race, I have kept (firmly held) the faith.

8 [As to what remains] henceforth there is laid up for me the [victor's] crown of righteousness [for being right with God and doing right], which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me and recompense me on that [great] day—and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved and yearned for and welcomed His appearing (His return).

There are many “things” that the Church no longer wants to talk about, no longer agrees with or believes in God’s Word. This is why we need the promised Holy Spirit (reminds us of sin, judgment, righteousness and things to come - judgment) and to sit under pastors, preachers and teachers who will give you the meat of the Word - the whole steak!

Here is God’s instructions to the “Never Wrong” Prophet Ezekiel...

Ezekiel 33 AMPC

1 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, speak to your people [the Israelite captives in Babylon] and say to them, When I bring the sword upon a land and the people of the land take a man from among them and make him their watchman,

3 If when he sees the sword coming upon the land, he blows the trumpet and warns the people,

4 Then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

5 He heard the sound of the trumpet and did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning shall save his life.

6 But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any one of them, he is taken away in and for his perversity and iniquity, but his blood will I require at the watchman’s hand.

7 So you, son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear the word at My mouth and give them warning from Me.

8 When I say to the wicked, O wicked man, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his perversity and iniquity, but his blood will I require at your hand.

9 But if you warn the wicked to turn from his evil way and he does not turn from his evil way, he shall die in his iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

10 And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: Truly our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?

11 Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

12 And you, son of man, say to your people, The uprightness and justice of the [uncompromisingly] righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; and as for the wicked lawlessness of the wicked lawless, he shall not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness, neither shall the rigidly upright and just be able to live because of his past righteousness in the day that he sins and misses the mark [in keeping in harmony and right standing with God].

13 When I shall say to the [uncompromisingly] righteous that he shall surely live, and he trusts to his own righteousness [to save him] and commits iniquity (unrepentant sin), **all his righteous deeds shall not be [seriously] remembered;** but for his perversity and iniquity that he has committed he shall die.

14 Again, when I have said to the wicked, You shall surely die, if he turns from his sin and does that which is lawful and right—

15 If the wicked restores [what he took in] pledge, gives back what he had taken in robbery, walks in the statutes of life [right relationship with God], without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

16 None of his sins that he has committed shall be [seriously] remembered against him; he has done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

17 Yet your people say, The way of the Lord is not perfect or even just; but as for them, it is their own way that is not perfect or even just.

18 When the righteous turns back from his [uncompromising] righteousness and commits perverseness and iniquity, he shall even die in and because of it.

19 But if the wicked turns back from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it.

20 Yet you say, The way of the Lord is not perfect or [even] just. O you house of Israel, I will judge you, every one according to his own ways!

21 In the twelfth year of our captivity [in Babylon], in the tenth [month], on the fifth [day] of the month, a man who had escaped out of Jerusalem came to me [Ezekiel], saying, The city [Jerusalem] is taken.

22 Now the hand of the Lord had been upon me in the evening before this one who had escaped came, and He had opened my mouth [in readiness for the fugitives] coming to me in the morning, and my mouth was opened and I was no longer dumb.

23 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

24 Son of man, those [back in Palestine] who inhabit those wastes of the ground of Israel are saying, Abraham was only one man and he inherited the land, but we are many; the land is surely given to us to possess as our inheritance.

25 Therefore say to them, Thus says the Lord God: You eat meat with the blood [as an idolatrous rite] and lift up your eyes to your [filthy] idols and shed blood; shall you then possess the land?

26 You stand upon your sword [as your dependence]; you commit abominations and each of you defiles your neighbor's wife; shall you then possess the land?

27 Say this to them, Thus says the Lord God: As I live, surely those who are in the waste places shall fall by the sword, and him that is in the open field will I give to the beasts to be devoured, and those who are in strongholds and in caves shall die by pestilence.

28 And I will make the land [of Israel] a desolation and a waste, and her proud might shall cease, and the mountains of Israel shall be so desolate that no one will pass through them.

29 Then shall they know, understand, and realize that I am the Lord, when I have made the land a desolation and a waste because of all their abominations which they have committed.

30 As for you, son of man, your people who talk of you by the walls and in the doors of the houses say one to another, every one to his brother, Come and hear what the word is that comes forth from the Lord.

31 And they come to you as people come, and they sit before you as My people, and they hear the words you say, but they will not do them; for with their mouths they show much love, but their hearts go after and are set on their [idolatrous greed for] gain.

32 Behold, you are to them as a very lovely [love] song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument, for they hear your words but do not do them.

33 When this comes to pass—for behold, it will come!—then shall they know, understand, and realize that a prophet has been among them.

Pastor Grant, why are you saying all of this? I have to tell you about sin, judgment, & righteousness and how to escape these things that will come on everyone left on the earth - the blood will not be on my hands.

We have spent our studies going over “The End Times”. Timelines, things to watch out for, looking and things that have already taken place that were prophesied thousands of years ago. You and I need to hear the Word in order for the Holy Spirit to convict us and guide us into all truth. That’s what we have been doing and will continue to do. There are several passages of scripture (not just one) in the New Testament that the Apostle Paul wrote to the church regarding how to live our lives.

There are the do’s and the don’ts in God’s Word, just because you are not doing what is wrong, doesn’t mean you are doing what is right. We have to stop doing what is wrong (that’s for our protection) and do what is right to advance or expand the kingdom of God. Faith without the obedience to the do’s and don’ts is dead - doesn’t mean anything.

In order for God's people, His church, you and I, who were ordained to be here before the foundations of the earth were formed to be that witness, to make disciples, to not fall into temptation...we have to get onto the Meat of the Word.

Getting onto the meat of the Word means...eating different and cutting some things out as well.

Often times when the church hears something they don't like, they call it legalism...God wants us to repent and be obedient so we are protected in order to prosper. We want His blessing but not change the things that we want to keep? That is false teaching, that is being deceived and duped.

Hebrews 5:12-14 KJV

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

*14 **But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age,** even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

Hebrews 5:12-14 AMPC

12 For even though by this time you ought to be teaching others, you actually need someone to teach you over again the very first principles of God's Word. You have come to need milk, not solid food.

13 For everyone who continues to feed on milk is obviously inexperienced and unskilled in the doctrine of righteousness (of conformity to the divine will in purpose, thought, and action), for he is a mere infant [not able to talk yet]!

14 But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law.

Ephesians 4:12 KJV

12 For the perfecting of the saints, **for the work of the ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Ephesians 4:12 AMPC

12 His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church)

My job, verse 12 states, is to get you on the meat – the meat is for:

- For the perfecting of the saints
- For the work of the ministry
- For the edifying of the body of Christ:

2 Timothy 4:2 AMPC

2 Herald and **preach the Word!** Keep your sense of urgency [stand by, be at hand and ready], whether the opportunity seems to be favorable or unfavorable. [Whether it is convenient or inconvenient, whether it is welcome or unwelcome, you as preacher of the Word are to show people in what way their lives are wrong.] And convince them, rebuking and correcting, warning and urging and encouraging them, being unflagging and inexhaustible in patience and teaching.

Hebrews 4:12 AMPC

12 For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; **it is sharper than any two-edged sword**, penetrating to the dividing line of the [a]breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 KKJV

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any **two edged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

John 8:32 KJV

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

One of the jobs or characteristics of the Holy Spirit is that He reminds you and I of those “things” (God’s Word, promises in God’s Word, commands in God’s Word) that we have read and heard. The revelation of His Word brings the conviction through the Holy Spirit and the truth of God’s word. You have to hear the truth, God’s Word, even if it doesn’t taste good right now...or feel good... it can be very cutting.

John 6:63 KJV

*63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; **the flesh profiteth nothing**: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

James 4:17 AMPC

17 So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin.

James 4:17 KJV

17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Hebrews 12:12 KJV

*12 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which doth so **easily beset (troubles or threatens) us**, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, (we have some junk in our trunk that we need to get rid of - we have the power but we are being weighed down and not able to do what we are called to do)*

Hebrews 12:6-8 AMPC

6 For the Lord corrects and disciplines everyone whom He loves, and He punishes, even scourges, every son whom He accepts and welcomes to His heart and cherishes.

7 You must submit to and endure [correction] for discipline; God is dealing with you as with sons. For what son is there whom his father does not [thus] train and correct and discipline?

8 Now if you are exempt from correction and left without discipline in which all [of God's children] share, then you are illegitimate offspring and not true sons [at all].

Hebrews 12:6-8 KJV

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

So what are those things that weigh us down?

We are not talking about legalism, this is about what does God expect from us. What should we be aspiring to, not **what you and I think** but **what does God say and think** because His thoughts are not our thoughts...our idea of drunkenness is not God's idea.

Isaiah 55:8 KJV

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

So, why is drinking alcohol worth discussing? What's the big deal?

68% of Evangelical preachers drink.

73% of Evangelicals drink.

Paul, Jesus and John said drunkards won't enter the Kingdom of Heaven. God's Word tells me the drunkard going to church on Sundays isn't going to heaven - so there has to be some information in God's Word about what is a drunkard right? Or is it whatever I think? That's called humanism.

humanism defined: an outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters. Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems.

Genesis 3:1-4 AMPC

1 Now the serpent was more subtle and crafty than any living creature of the field which the Lord God had made. And he [Satan] said to the woman, Can it really be that God has said, You shall not eat from every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat the fruit from the trees of the garden,

3 Except the fruit from the tree which is in the middle of the garden. God has said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.

4 But the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die

Alcohol is a very divisive topic, like politics, so, the Church doesn't talk about it or if they do it's opinion based on not drinking or drinking. We have to teach on this because drunkards won't enter heaven, and the Holy Spirit convicts you and I based on something you have heard and/or read. In order for the Holy Spirit to do His job, I have to do mine and you have to do yours.

So, what does God say about alcohol?

Proverbs 20:1 ESV

Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

Ephesians 5:18 ESV

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

Habakkuk 2:15 ESV

“Woe to him who makes his neighbors drink— you pour out your wrath and make them drunk...

Isaiah 5:22 ESV

Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine, and valiant men in mixing strong drink,

Galatians 5:21 AMPC

*19 **Now the doings (practices) of the flesh are clear (obvious):** they are immorality, impurity, indecency,*

*20 Idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger (ill temper), selfishness, divisions (dissensions), party spirit (factions, sects with **peculiar opinions**, heresies),*

*21 Envy, **drunkenness**, carousing, and the like. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that **those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.***

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 AMPC

*9 **Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God?** Do not be deceived (misled): neither the impure and immoral, nor idolaters, **nor adulterers, nor those who participate in homosexuality,***

*10 Nor cheats (swindlers and thieves), nor greedy graspers, nor **drunkards, nor foulmouthed revilers and slanderers,** nor extortioners and robbers will inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God.*

1 Corinthians 5:11 AMPC

11 But now I write to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of [Christian] brother if he is known to be guilty of immorality or greed, or is an idolater [whose soul is devoted to any object that usurps the place of God], ...

*or **is a person with a foul tongue [railing, abusing, reviling, slandering], or is a drunkard or a swindler or a robber.** [No] you must not so much as eat with such a person.*

Proverbs 23:29-35 AMPC

29 *Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness and dimness of eyes?*

30 *Those who tarry long at the wine, those who go to seek and try mixed wine.*

31 ***Do not look at wine when it is red,*** *when it sparkles in the wineglass, when it goes down smoothly.*

32 *At the last it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder.*

33 *[Under the influence of wine] your eyes will behold strange things [and loose women] and your mind will utter things turned the wrong way [untrue, incorrect, and petulant].*

34 *Yes, you will be [as unsteady] as he who lies down in the midst of the sea, and [as open to disaster] as he who lies upon the top of a mast.*

35 *You will say, They struck me, but I was not hurt! They beat me [as with a hammer], but I did not feel it! When shall I awake? I will crave and seek more wine again [and escape reality].*

Proverbs 23:29-35 ESV

Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart utter perverse things. ...

1 Corinthians 3:16 AMPC

16 *Do you not discern and understand that you [the whole church at Corinth] are God's temple (His sanctuary), and that God's Spirit has His permanent dwelling in you [to be at home in you, [a]collectively as a church and also individually]?*

Romans 12:1 AMPC

12 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

Isaiah 28:7 AMPC

7 But even these reel from wine and stagger from strong drink: the priest and the prophet reel from strong drink; they are confused from wine, they stagger and are gone astray through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble when pronouncing judgment.

Why is this a big deal? Because the drunkard, along with a whole list of others, won't be in heaven. Is this a big deal? Do you want to know that you are right with God?

So, what does the Bible consider drunkenness? Not what you consider drunk, not what the highway patrol considers drunk, they will not be standing there with you before Jesus. Just because you heard it was ok from a teacher or a preacher or you may have been to a church where the pastor drinks so it must be ok - does the Bible say that the pastor can drink?

1 Timothy 3:1-5 KJV

1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

1 Timothy 3:8-12 KJV

8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

The last instruction Jesus gave before going back to heaven was be My witness, go make disciples...so does alcohol help or hurt my witness? The very thing I'm supposed to be doing for God... is what I'm doing preventing me from being righteous? What is right or righteous according to God's Word? Or is it "did God really say that?"

Well, I don't think this should be talked about or I will not listen and/or I will listen through a filter of I don't want to change anything that I do, I'm a good person.

The Bible says the whole Word shall be preached, it says that the whole Word is profitable, let alone this thing called alcohol, or drunkenness or intoxication with the root word toxic, or inebriated will prevent some from going to heaven... this is huge.

Why do I know it is huge, because Jesus told the church be careful...52% of the people in this country drink alcohol, 73% of evangelicals who go to church once per week drink alcohol, 68% of evangelical pastors drink.

Go be My witnesses...

Acts 1:8 KJV

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Go make disciples, teach them how to live...

Matthew 28:18-20 KJV

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

But, I am free to drink, the Bible doesn't say I can't. Paul said I am free to whatever but I choose to be a slave or servant in order to witness - I buffet my body. I cut off those things that hold me down and that are sin.

1 Corinthians 9:19-27 AMPC

19 For although I am free in every way from anyone's control, I have made myself a bond servant (or slave) to everyone, so that I might gain the more [for Christ].

23 And I do this for the sake of the good news (the Gospel), in order that I may become a participator in it and share in its [blessings along with you].

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours.

25 Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we [do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness] that cannot wither.

26 Therefore I do not run uncertainly (without definite aim). I do not box like one beating the air and striking without an adversary.

27 But [like a boxer] I buffet my body [handle it roughly, discipline it by hardships] and subdue it, for fear that after proclaiming to others the Gospel and things pertaining to it, I myself should become unfit [not stand the test, be unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit].

1 Peter 1:13-17 AMPC

13 So brace up your minds; be sober (circumspect, morally alert); set your hope wholly and unchangeably on the grace (divine favor) that is coming to you when Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is revealed.

14 [Live] as children of obedience [to God]; **do not conform yourselves to the evil desires [that governed you] in your former ignorance** [when you did not know the requirements of the Gospel].

15 **But as the One Who called you is holy, you yourselves also be holy in all your conduct and manner of living.**

16 For it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

17 And if you call upon Him as [your] Father Who judges each one impartially according to what he does, [then] you should conduct yourselves with true reverence throughout the time of your temporary residence [on the earth, whether long or short].

Many of you have never heard this teaching before, or any teaching regarding alcohol or what is drunkenness... or the one who is drunken will not go to heaven. I can't tell you why you haven't heard it before but I can tell what the Bible says.

1 Timothy 4:1 AMPC

4 But the [Holy] Spirit distinctly and expressly declares that in latter times some will turn away from the faith, giving attention to **deluding and seducing spirits and doctrines that demons teach,**

Definition of Delude: to deceive the mind or judgment of; mislead;

Hosea 4:6 AMPC

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge;

Jesus warned us about this end times teaching in Matthew 24....

Matthew 24:11 AMPC

11 And **many false prophets** will rise up and deceive and **lead many into error.**

Matthew 24:24 AMPC

24 For false Christs and false prophets will arise, and they will show great signs and wonders so as to deceive and lead astray, if possible, even the elect (God's chosen ones).

2 Timothy 4:1-5 AMPC

1 I charge [you] in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who is to judge the living and the dead, and by (in the light of) His coming and His kingdom:

2 Herald and preach the Word! Keep your sense of urgency [stand by, be at hand and ready], whether the opportunity seems to be favorable or unfavorable. [Whether it is convenient or inconvenient, whether it is welcome or unwelcome, you as preacher of the Word are to show people in what way their lives are wrong.] And convince them, rebuking and correcting, warning and urging and encouraging them, being unflagging and inexhaustible in patience and teaching.

*3 For the time is coming when [people] will not tolerate (endure) sound and wholesome instruction, **but, having ears itching** [for something pleasing and gratifying], **they will gather to themselves one teacher after another to a considerable number, chosen to satisfy their own liking and to foster the errors they hold,***

4 And will turn aside from hearing the truth and wander off into myths and man-made fictions

5 As for you, be calm and cool and steady, accept and suffer unflinchingly every hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fully perform all the duties of your ministry.

Jeremiah 14:14 KJV

14 Then the Lord said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

This is a 2 part teaching so I want to start with some scriptures in God's Word that you may have not heard (new food but not new to God's Word) or have but it was told in a way to mislead or in a deluded way.

Wine in the Bible is referred to as fermented or non fermented in the Old Testament in more plain language. In the New Testament, study of the Greek can be required more so than the Old. So wine, equals grape juice, but what kind? Fermented or non fermented is the question and how much can I drink.

First, Pastors drinking alcohol, elders, bishops, all the same - the one who is the shepherd overseeing the flock or congregation. Can a pastor drink?

The apostle Paul who helped start the New Testament church - setting up churches and through his inspired writings by the Holy Spirit helped shape and form the Church as we know it today.

Here in 1 Timothy, he is writing a letter or an epistle regarding the qualifications to be a pastor or bishop.

1 Timothy 3:2-3 KJV

2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3 Not given to wine...

1 Timothy 3:3 AMPC

3 Not given to wine,

Not given to any wine not grape juice, but specifically alcohol. **The phrase in verse three consists of three Greek words: (nephalios); abstain and (me paroinos)** literally translated, means “not beside, by, or at wine” (Vine, 1966, p. 146; Robertson, 1934, p. 613).

The phrase is enjoining or instructing, commanding abstinence, and even the act of situating oneself in the presence of people (circle of friends) and places (entertainment, bar) where the consumption of alcoholic beverages **is primary/occurring**. This is not pertaining to witnessing or sitting down with the sinner who drinks but rather the pastors close group - the ones he hangs out with, for temptation and appearances.

1 Timothy 3:8-10 KJV

8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, **not given to much wine...**

10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

not given to much...you may be in situations from work to different settings where you might have to be in that setting. Ok... Ok... but does that mean they can drink? It seems that's what people really want to know. Not so much how much can we before we are considered (drunkards) and not go to heaven **but can we?** Then I will decide what drunk is or the police will.

If this passage is speaking about fermented wine, then it's a sin for a pastor to drink alcohol and not a sin for the deacon? Sin is sin... This is information right from God's Word today... do you still love me? Remember this is my job to instruct, encourage... oneness of faith - all hearing the same thing, the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

There are other qualifications as well for both positions... and what the Bible says in regards to the deacon.

1 Timothy 5:22 AMPC

22 Do not be in a hurry in the laying on of hands [giving the sanction of the church too hastily...

So why do later translations say for a pastor that it's ok? Man decided to change it.

1 Timothy 3:3,8 NIV

3 **not given to drunkenness...**

8 In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine,

1 Timothy 3 The Message (MSG)

3 not be **overfond** of wine,

The further you get away from the original Word or commands the more watered down it becomes - the more naturally palatable it becomes. The more people don't have to change or work on perfecting their walk with Christ in order to be a "Christian" or follower of Christ as a result of being deceived intentionally or as a result of the pastor, preacher and teacher not studying God's Word, lazy or deceived themselves - that is all found in the Bible - not my Words but God's.

This is the never wrong Prophet Isaiah..

Isaiah 56:10-12 AMPC

10 [Israel's] watchmen are blind, they are all without knowledge; they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; dreaming, lying down, they love to slumber.

11 Yes, the dogs are greedy; they never have enough. And such are the shepherds who cannot understand; they have all turned to their own way, each one to his own gain, from every quarter [one and all].

12 Come, say they, We will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink! And tomorrow shall be as this day, a day great beyond measure.

Isaiah 56:10-12 KJV

10 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

11 Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter.

12 Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.

This is what God said about adding or deleting from His Word. This speaks to adding or deleting by twisting His Words, deleting His Words, intentionally not speaking about His Commands or the truth to avoid offending people in the church.

Revelation 22:20 says...*he who adds or deletes from this book God shall remove his name from the book of life...*

Jeremiah 14:14 KJV

14 Then the Lord said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

God said, I didn't say that, they (preachers and teachers) are telling you something that you think I said - watch out!

Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through God's Word...

Secondly there is another passage that is often referred to by pastors and Christians about drinking and/or to justify drinking intoxicating or alcoholic wine.

1 Timothy 5:23 KJV

*23 Drink no longer water, but use a **little wine** for thy **stomach's sake** and **thine often infirmities**.*



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