

FIFTY-FIVE BIBLE REFERENCES ON THE EVILS OF DRINKING

1. Genesis 9:20-27 - The first "man of distinction" and the tragic consequences of his drunkenness.
2. Genesis 19:30-38 - Drinking results in Lot's debauchery of his own daughters.
3. Leviticus 10:8-11 - The Lord commanded Aaron and his sons not to drink either wine or strong drink while rendering service for God.
4. Numbers 6:3 - The vow of the Nazarite excluded drinking wine and strong drink.
5. Deuteronomy 21:20 - Drinking is one of the attributes of a stubborn, rebellious, and disobedient son.
6. Judges 13:4,7,14 - Samson's mother was expressly commanded by the angel of the Lord not to drink wine or strong drink.
7. 1 Samuel 25:36-38 - Nabal, a childish, evil, drinking man, was smitten by the Lord.
8. 1 Samuel 11:13 - By the use of strong drink, David led Uriah into a fatal trap.
9. 2 Samuel 13:28,29 - Amnon, on a drinking spree, was murdered by the servants of his brother, Absalom.
10. 1 Kings 16:8-10 - While Elah, King of Israel, was "drinking himself drunk" one of his captains who had conspired against him, killed him.
11. 1 Kings 20:13-21 - While Ben-Hadad, King of Syria, and thirty-two other kings were drinking themselves drunk in their pavilions, a small band of Israelites fell upon the Syrians and put them to flight.
12. Esther 1:5-22 - After a weeks feasting and drinking, King Ahasuerus drunkenly tried to subject Vashti, his queen,, to the beastly gaze of the inebriated people and princes.
13. Proverbs 20:1 - No wise person will allow himself to be deceived by wine which is a mocker or by strong drink which is raging.
14. Proverbs 21:17; 23:21 - Drinking leads to poverty.
15. Proverbs 23:29,30 - Strong drink produces sorrow, woe, contentions, babbling, wounds without cause and redness of eyes.
16. Proverbs 23:21 - An admonition to refrain from even looking upon wine.
17. Proverbs 23:32 - At last alcohol bites like a serpent and stings like an adder.
18. Proverbs 23:33 - It fills men's minds with impure and perverse thoughts.
19. Proverbs 23:34 - It brings on danger, accidents, and insecurity.
20. Proverbs 23:35 - Insensibility follows drinking, rendering man into a clod; and it is habit forming so that the drinker upon awakening seeks it "yet again."
21. Proverbs 31:4,5 - Officials with the responsibility of human life on their hands should not imbibe.
22. Ecclesiastes 2:3 - The writer of Ecclesiastes tried strong drink but in the end admitted that this too was vanity. (Ecclesiastes 2:11; 12:8)
23. Ecclesiastes 10:17 - That nation is blessed whose leaders eat for strength and refrain from drunkenness.
24. Isaiah 5:11,12 - Woe is pronounced on those who give themselves to strong drink.
25. Isaiah 5:22 - Further woe is pronounced on the drunkards.
26. Isaiah 22:13 - Drinking often goes with carnal living.
27. Isaiah 28:1 - A woe is pronounced upon the drunkards of Ephraim.
28. Isaiah 28:3 - The drunkards of Ephraim to be trodden down and destroyed.
29. Isaiah 28:7 - Prophets and priests become incapable of spiritual leadership because of their drinking.
30. Isaiah 56:12 - Drinking accompanies foolish optimism and the sinner's vain hope that his sins will not find him out.
31. Jeremiah 35:5-8,14,19 - Rechabites who steadfastly held to total abstinence were assured God's continued blessings.
32. Daniel 1:5,8,16; 10:3 - Daniel, who refused to drink the king's wine, was especially blessed by the Lord.
33. Daniel 5:1,2 - This is the tragic example of a king who drank and who led his people to do likewise.
34. Daniel 5:3 - Drinking leads to profaning sacred things.
35. Daniel 3:25-28 - Moral degradation, of which drinking is a symptom, is ultimately punished by God.
36. Hosea 4:10,11 - Strong drink and immorality go hand in hand.
37. Hosea 7:5 - The king by his drinking was not only made sick, but became scornful.
38. Joel 3:3 - Young women were sold for the price of a drink.
39. Amos 4:1 - Dissolute women, oppressors of the poor, call for their drink.
40. Amos 6:3-6 - The evil, idle rich, who were given to imbibing wine were not concerned about the affliction of the poor.
41. Habakkuk 2:5 - Arrogance is inflamed by drink.

42. Habakkuk 2:15 - It is wrong to lead another to drink.
43. Habakkuk 2:16 - Drinking leads to shame and humiliation.
44. Matthew 24:48-51 - Drinking is not consistent with alertness.
45. Luke 1:15 - Greatness of John the Baptist linked with his total abstinence.
46. Luke 12:45 - Christ warns against drunkenness.
47. Luke 21:34 - Drinking would prevent men from being prepared for the destruction of Jerusalem.
48. Romans 13:13 - All are admonished to walk honestly, not in rioting and drunkenness.
49. Romans 14:21 - Christians are admonished not to drink let a brother be caused to stumble.
50. 1 Corinthians 5:11 - Christians are forbidden to keep company with any brother who is a drunkard.
51. 1 Corinthians 6:10 - No drunkard shall inherit the Kingdom of God. (Therefore, the preaching of the gospel must include education about alcohol!)
52. 1 Corinthians 11:21 - The Lord's Supper is no time for drunkenness.
53. Galatians 5:21 - Drunkenness prevents men from inheriting the Kingdom of God.
54. Ephesians 5:18 - Christians commanded not to be drunk with wine but to be filled with the Spirit.
55. 1 Timothy 3:3,8 - Church leaders are not to be "given to wine."

Although there are many instances of drinking in the Bible, it must be remembered that these are never held up as examples for us to follow. The whole weight of the Bible's authority is against the manifold evils of beverage alcohol. Today, we as Christians, must make a sincere appeal for believers everywhere to join together in total abstinence from beverage alcohol. This terrible scourge in our society can be driven from our homes and communities when God's people set themselves to the task, with His help.