

The Foundation

Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline. Proverbs 1.7

Is Drinking Alcohol A Wise Choice?

Dr. Larry Lamb – February 17, 2019

This message is **not for** the person who says:

1. I have no **RELATIONSHIP** to Christ, and I am mystified why this is even a viable topic of discussion. Drinking alcohol? Seriously?
2. I drink alcohol, never get drunk, and no one's going to **CONVINCE** me to stop drinking.
3. I like to drink (not get drunk) but I do enjoy the buzz.
4. I enjoy a 44-ounce Big Gulp size glass of wine in the evenings to relax me.
5. My favorite story in the Bible is when Jesus turned water to wine. I don't know where that story is in the Bible, but glad it's there, so bottoms up!

This message is **for** the person who says:

1. I'm seeking to be wise of who and what I **ALLOW** into my life.
2. There is pressure in the culture to **CONFORM** to what everyone else is doing, but I have doubts that alcohol is the wisest decision for me. I choose to not drink.
3. I am young and drinking could trap me into thinking that to be **ACCEPTED** by others, I should consider drinking alcohol.
4. One reason we have made the decision to pass on alcohol in our home is because (believe it or not) children **EMULATE** parents.

If your alcohol consumption is increasing, then the warning lights are going off and here are three questions that need an answer:

- Am I wise?
- Can I stop?
- Will I stop?

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION CAN **CONFUSE** PEOPLE.

Proverbs 23.29-35 Who has anguish? Who has sorrow? Who is always fighting? Who is always complaining? Who has unnecessary bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? ³⁰ It is the one who spends long hours in the taverns, trying out new drinks. ³¹ Don't gaze at the wine, seeing how red it is, how it sparkles in the cup, how smoothly it goes down. ³² For in the end it bites like a poisonous snake; it stings like a viper. ³³ You will see hallucinations, and you will say crazy things. ³⁴ You will stagger like a sailor tossed at sea, clinging to a swaying mast. ³⁵ And you will say, "They hit me, but I didn't feel it. I didn't even know it when they beat me up. When will I wake up so I can look for another drink?"

Some of you are thinking . . . that's who I use to be.
Some of you are thinking . . . that's who I have become.

I know that from this message some Christians here:

- ⇒ Will **DISREGARD** this information.
- ⇒ Might send a long email with **SCRIPTURAL** support for their decision to drink alcohol.
- ⇒ Might curtail their alcohol intake.
- ⇒ Will evaluate the wisdom of drinking.

I know that from this message some Christians here:

- ⇒ Will stop drinking alcohol because they're seeing the **EARLY** signs of craving more and more alcohol.
- ⇒ Will have further determination to never start drinking alcohol.
(Who regrets taking a pass on something that could be enslaving)?
- ⇒ Will evaluate the impression being made on their **CHILDREN** by drinking alcohol.

1. If you can look back over the last year and see a **STEADY** increase of alcohol consumption, please don't be foolish with your life.
2. If you're searching for a **PEACEFUL** life, you will never find it with liquor, but you will with a relationship with God, through Jesus.
3. If you're trying to escape from the hurts of life with alcohol, please stop now.

Jesus, I thank You that You came and died on the cross for my sins so that I can be forgiven. I am a sinner and in need of Your grace, mercy, and forgiveness. I turn from my sins and say "NO" to a life of living for myself. I turn to You and say "YES" to Your will for my life. I ask You now to save me from my sins. I open my heart to You and receive You as my Lord and Savior. Thank You for saving me and forgiving me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.