

The Word “Wine” In the Bible

Understanding the Bible requires us to understand words. Did you know that the word “wine” sometimes means a beverage that is not intoxicating and sometimes means a beverage that is intoxicating? Compare Proverbs 3:10 and 20:1. In 3:10, wine is the result of wisdom. In 20:1, wine destroys wisdom. Can you tell which is intoxicating wine?

Another way to realize this is to look at the use of wine in the Bible. Wine was a daily drink like grain/corn was a common food, even used by young children (Deut. 33:28; Lam. 2:11-12), it was given to weary travelers (2 Sam. 16:2), and available during ongoing celebrations when people will drink throughout the celebration (Jn. 2:1ff). Now think. If you use an intoxicating beverage daily, give it to your children, drink it when you are exhausted from travel, and drink it throughout a day-long party what will happen? You and your family would be constantly intoxicated and alcoholics! Clearly the word “wine” in these verses is not an intoxicating beverage. Visit our website for more study, to read the next article, or to send us your comments or questions. We want to hear from you. **www.QVCOC.com**