

No Wining for Me

Leanna Bolden, Eternally Speaking Now

Several years into my new life in Christ, I came to a place of wrestling regarding the use of alcohol. The Bible indicates that consuming alcohol is acceptable before the Lord as long as it is not to drunkenness and is done within the parameters of Scripture. For example, God calls us not to be mastered by anything (1 Corinthians 6:12), and He wants us to do all things in such a way that glorifies Him (1 Corinthians 10:31).

God eventually led me to make a commitment to not drink alcohol at all. He did that through an in-depth study of both Scripture *and* my heart...followed by a vow I made to not partake of any such drink until the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-9). To summarize, for me, my reasons for not drinking alcohol include:

- a) an awareness that there is an intriguing parallel between thirsting for the Holy Spirit and imbibing in alcoholic spirits: this led me to conclude that I want more of Him and less of what the earth and its worldly system can provide
- b) a longing to enter deeply into the holy of holies with Jesus, in my personal walk with Him (see Ezekiel 44:21)
- c) a conviction that indeed, I was one who was more inclined to long for more than ‘just one drink,’ and did not want to be mastered by anything aside from the Holy Spirit
- d) the realization that alcohol can easily stumble others: as one understands first-hand how damaging it is to be stumbled, I don’t want to do that to others. Yes, I can be a “weaker one” like everybody else (Romans 14), and I don’t want to lead others down the wrong path
- e) as one in leadership, it’s a matter of being above reproach: I want people to know that when they call me, day or night, weekday or weekend, home or abroad, my mind is sharp and in line with the Holy Spirit, not tainted by another influencing spirit.

To access Scriptures that have helped me keep this resolve, see “No Wining” under the “Scriptures” tab on the menu bar at www.leannabolden.com or go to

<https://storage.googleapis.com/production-constantcontact-v1-0-6/676/269676/CvXbrXwo/acb9623d6ac8425bae6c2a1d6435559f?fileName=website%20verses%20No%20wining.pdf>