

## **The Spiritual Fruit Of Temperance**

Any honest person who has consumed alcoholic beverages to any extent will tell you that they have experienced the chemical effect of this drug upon their body, mind and spirit.

Aside from periodic sips from their beer glasses that my parents would let me take back in the 1960's, I drank my first whole 12 ounce can of beer one night with my teenage buddies back around 1973.

That night walking around the African Rd. neighborhood in Vestal, N.Y., I became dizzy drunk and almost sick to my stomach after just 1 to 2 cans of beers. Two years later it would take 6 to 9 cans of beers to get that drunk.

Our gang had now arrived in our own minds. We would laugh and mock amateur drinkers; those in the same shoes I was first in when I began drinking a couple years earlier. Our foolish pride coined these naive fools we were now watching get drunk on 1 to 2 beers as "two-can Sams".

Three years later it would take 9 to 12 beers plus liquor shots to get wasted.

By 21, I was on my way to being a real problem drinker. We would drink into what I called a "Zombosis" or a "Zombatic state". I knew I couldn't control myself once I started and knew that I could only restrain myself for a few days before I would once again "have to get wasted".

When wasted I became a very different person; a wild, angry, and perverted person who I grew to despise. I'm thankful that my dominant sinful traits are basically antisocial because we need to despise our own life before being saved. (Luke 14:26) If my dominant sinful traits had been covetousness and greed, I believe that the resulting love of money and the things of this world would have been harder to accept as sin because these attitudes and behaviors aren't commonly seen as sinful in America.

At 21, with my Dad dying of cancer and facing the reality of a potential marriage failure, I began searching for God as he was reaching out to me. I read the testimony of singer B. J. Thomas' conversion to Christ in the remarkable old book, "Home Where I Belong". This story of saving faith; coupled with the witness of sincere believers and paraphrased scripture, helped this lost, un-churched sinner find his way home to his heavenly Father's house back in the fall of 1979.

I enjoyed many years of faithful fellowship with Christ before I gradually began using alcohol again. At first the drinking was just wine with a special dinner or at the home of professing Christian friends. I noticed that the drinking wasn't like it was before I knew the Lord. I seemed to be able to control it and my behavior even if I could feel the

"buzz". It sometimes seemed to almost enhance the depth of conversations; almost like a truth serum which opened our minds and mouths. I became sold on the idea of being a moderate Christian drinker. I had loosened up which was something more than one "pastor" had said I needed to do.

About 1992, however, I began drinking beer again with a younger friend who professed to be saved. I wanted to help him grow and enjoyed talking with him about life. As our friendship grew, so did our drinking. I still felt that I was in control. I didn't realize, however, that time would reveal I was being deeply deceived. I did express concern one night in a home fellowship meeting that we were drinking too much, however, the concern fell on deaf ears.

What began with 4 beers one evening outdoors on a beautiful South Carolina summer night at this friend's home about 20 years ago, progressed in 7 years to drinking 6 to 8 beers 2 to 3 work nights a week and oftentimes as many as 24 to 48 beers on the weekends.

Before I was back on the cross crucified with Christ where I belong in 2001, I had experienced arrest, jail, separation, divorce, immorality and shame because of my loss of temperance.

Because I could still function as an Industrial Engineer and was a "nice guy" who understood life, I believed that I could control myself and nobody needed to tell me I needed to stop drinking. I was convinced that I wasn't really hurting anyone including myself with my drinking. Eleven years later I by the grace of God I haven't had even the first drink and have no desire for another. By God's grace I will finish the race dry for Christ.

I know the sad reality is that it's been considered "cool" for decades in certain Christian circles for professing believers to drink moderately. It might be "cool", but is it the wise and most excellent way?

Drinking professing brothers and sisters in Christ, there are others like me within your sphere of influence. You may not realize the extent of their weakness. They may not even realize it themselves. The lives of these precious people can be ruined if they begin drinking. There are young people, even your own children, who might be among those who can be ruined by this chemical. Do you really want to be responsible for their ruinous fall? Do you really want to have a share in possibly even helping them land in the lake of fire prepared for the devil and his angels? I think not- if you are truly one of God's children.

There is another wave of deception beside drinking waging war against the mind of people, even professing followers of Jesus Christ, in this 21st century. The war of

psychiatric drugs has gone hot. Today, 11% of Americans over 12 years of age use anti-depressant drugs to control their mind. It's estimated that in ten years, 40%, or two out of five American minds will be under chemical mind control!

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/from-persuasion-to-coercion-psychopharmas-priesthood-of-the-mind/>

Here is a list of informative sites for your educational information on this critical issue.

<http://www.cchrint.org/>

<http://www.thepeoplesvoice.org/TPV3/Voices.php/2012/04/05/long-term-treatment-with-antidepressant->

<http://www.madinamerica.com/>

<http://www.breggin.org/>

<http://www.ssristories.com/>

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/the-colorado-batman-shooter-de-mystifying-mass-murder-in-america/>

Psychiatric mind control has been rendered socially acceptable by societal engineers. In fact, you dare not question it's goodness or you may face the powerful forces of spiritual wickedness manifested through respected positions within American institutions. There's much money being made, with much more to be made still, in the chemical mind control business. Those that dare mess with the profits of wickedness risk being tagged and bagged by the high places as delusional.

Caring believers need to speak up against this growing enemy of our minds. I believe the majority of professing Christians are carelessly clueless toward the ravaging effects of psychiatric drugs upon the mind. The vast majority of the professing body of Christ in America may refuse to hear and obey the word of God on this subject. They may even bitterly reject those that speak truth on this topic because church leaders fear alienating financial supporters. They're aware that the Facebook network of their donors is likely to contain one or more other givers or potential givers linked to others who profit, either directly or indirectly, from the lucrative business involved in the manufacturing and distribution of mind controlling anti-depressant drugs. Large multinational corporate manufacturers of anti-depressant drugs have many tentacles reaching out of from anti-depressant manufacturers into government, education, healthcare, investment, insurance and other field offices. It's past time to awake from our slumber and shine the light of Christ in this darkness.

**Conclusion**

Jesus predicted that before his appearing, love would fail and bitter hatred would rise. (Matthew 24:12)

Self control is now falling prey to drug control. Healing from deficiencies in divinely supplied vitamins and minerals and in the peace and rest of God's loving kindness is increasingly sought in corrupt human resources rather than perfectly engineered divine provision.

Confused, ignorant and deceived victims desperately rush into a mixed cocktail of psychiatric mind-control anti-depressant pharmaceutical drugs prescribed by the *pharmakeus*; the medical doctors/druggist sorcerers; the trusted grasping arms of profit driven pharmaceutical manufacturing corporations. The authority of these drug pushing and poisoning doctor gods is feared more than the power of the Lord Jesus Christ. Reduced to the moral level of a street junkie faithful to its devilish dealer, sorcerers prey are loyal to their trapper sorcerer. Just the suggestion that they consider getting off the mind control drugs can make them run in fear.

Desperate faithlessness separates sorcerers prey from healing fellowship with God's Holy Spirit. This is resulting in unpredictable, irrational, 180 degree moral turns and deranged, illogical, heated, outburst of temper often exposing the selfish greed of the paranoid prey. Like extreme alcohol intoxication chemically alters personality and can impair the ability to recall events of the previous day, victims of this legalized pharmaceutical drug addiction suffer from memory lapses which clear their mind of things they have said and or done against others when under the influence of their sorcerers cocktail. Repentant apology for their abuses against others that might restore broken relationships is made very difficult, if not impossible, because of the drugs' mind controlling power. God's word is very clear that sorcerers, the *pharmakeus*, the mind poisoning drug pushers and their unrepentant victims will not live eternally. (Revelation 21:8)

The alternative to the ruinous side and after effects of chemical mind control is holy spirit mind control. One of the many benefits of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ is the fruit of temperance in our lives that we can enjoy when we trust him to produce it in our lives via the indwelling Holy Spirit.

This fruit of the Holy Spirit is promised to the born again believer. We can receive it if we trust God to give it to us.

As the fruit of trees, bushes and vines can be ruined by pestilence; likewise, the good fruit of temperance can be destroyed in our lives if our trust is misplaced in human resources like psychiatric drugs and or alcohol.

For those of us that are saved, our personality will not become Christ-like through the quick and dirty chemical methods. Temperance is a fruit of the Holy Spirit that we are to allow him to add to our lives. (Galatians 5:23; 2 Peter 1:6)

Temperance as used in the KJV New Testament is defined by Webster's 1828 as follows:

- Moderation; particularly, habitual moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions; restrained or moderate indulgence; as temperance in eating and drinking; temperance in the indulgence of joy or mirth. Temperance in eating and drinking is opposed to gluttony and drunkenness, and in other indulgences, to excess.
- Patience; calmness; sedateness; moderation of passion.

Moderation as used in the KJV New Testament is defined by Webster's 1828 as follows:

- Restraint of violent passions or indulgence of appetite. Eat and drink with moderation; indulge with moderation in pleasures and exercise.
- Calmness of mind; equanimity; as, to bear prosperity or adversity with moderation.

In closing, here is a timely and beneficial promise given to us through the Apostle Peter; a model of the personality moderating power of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It's my prayer that we will follow his word of exhortation and faithfully allow the Spirit of God, not chemicals, to meet our needs in these last days of distress in Babylon.

*"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:2-11)*