

Alcohol Use Rampant In The United States

Alcohol consumption has been on the rise in the U.S. for some time, but a new study has found that binge drinking is rampant in many parts of the country. According to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration survey, based on 136,000 interviews, drug abuse has dramatically increased as well and is as big a problem in some regions as binge drinking, which was defined as "drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion." About 23 percent said they had binged on alcohol within the past 30 days.

The Bible very plainly says that drunkenness is a sin (Proverbs 20:1; 1 Corinthians 6:10; Galatians 5:21; Ephesians 5:18). Addiction to alcohol is also condemned (Proverbs 21:17; 23:29-32; Joel 1:5). Abstinence from wine was practiced several times in the Bible. Instances included the Levites while on duty (Leviticus 10:9; Ezekiel 44:21), the Nazirites during their vow (Numbers 6:3), of Samson's mother during her pregnancy (Judges 13:4-5), of Daniel to avoid defilement (Daniel 1:8-20), of kings and rulers (Proverbs 31:4-5), and of John the Baptist (Luke 1:15).

It has become very common today to refer to alcoholism as a "disease." By referring to it as a "disease," it gives the impression that one cannot turn from this sin and be converted (Acts 3:19). I have watched my brother battle with alcoholism and I know how difficult it is to repent of this sin. However, Paul said some of the Corinthians were drunkards, yet they had the power to repent. You do too. If you want to know how the gospel can change your life, please be our guest when we assemble.

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