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Theology of wine

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# Tools to explain

You’re going to leave here at some point and bump in to people that will ask you about what you were doing. They will ask you questions: is any of that even in the Bible? Where is it? It is, well Jesus did some stuff. A lot of the students were bumping into that. We have the enthusiasm, but having trouble putting it all together.

You’ll have some verses and coherent sense of what is happening, I don’t have a Bible verse for everything: gemstone, gold dust and feather verse. We’re going to try to get through the Bible and categorize some things.

Different manifestations of stuff in the Bible, let’s talk about these verses, does that sound like or not sound like the manifestation. Falling over; 10 different verses where it is in the Bible. Not brand new verses out of nowhere, but organize them into categories.

# First weeks

Manifestation stuff, then a session on sensationalism, where do they come from with their theory? Biblical freedom, how to study your Bibles. Then wrap it up and practical application, how he talked with people and how they failed.

It’s a Bible class, highly recommend you have a Bible. Class: not a big handout, but let’s make it interactive, engaged and processing this out. Feel free to raise your hand, trying to take as many questions as possible.

Why the name? It sounded good. Apologetics in the technical sense: a defense of Christianity in the face of other religions, what makes Christianity different? Not so you can argue with people who disagree with us. Arguing is not his point, that is the last thing! People need an encounter, not an argument.

# Experiences and the Bible

He learned that everything should always line up with the Bible. Pretty good teaching, however our experience drives our theology. You don’t believe speaking in tongues, but then God shows up and it messes up your world. Almost every person who is delivering people says Christians can’t have demons, and they can support them with everything.

Experiences are valuable, but I should be able to back it up with what I am seeing in the Bible. He has trouble finding anything in the Bible that comes alongside, demons all the time, also Israelites in the Covenant. Speaking in tongues, different theories. Sometimes we have experiences that have gone too far. We should always be coming back to the Bible when we have experiences.

Where is this all in the Bible? For this answer I want Bible verses now! After you have Bible verses, then the second question; what else would you want to communicate to these people.

Acts 2:1-4 (ESV) When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Psalms 135:6 (ESV) Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

Revelation 1:17 (ESV) When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last,

Daniel 10:2-9 (ESV) In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river (that is, the Tigris) I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude. And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision, but a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. So I was left alone and saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me. My radiant appearance was fearfully changed, and I retained no strength. Then I heard the sound of his words, and as I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in deep sleep with my face to the ground.

There is an argument and 20 books that will say something different.

Ephesians 5:18-21 (ESV) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Acts 28:7-10 (ESV) Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him. And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

The Bible is clearly telling us that this is still for our day and age. Not just for them. God wants to do this, still and forevermore!

Job 8:21 (ESV) He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, and your lips with shouting.

# Manifestations

Latin roots. First one is manus = hand, festus = festival, celebration.

The root words literally are: the dancing hand of God. Rich spends a long time in his mind, struggles to get down to his heart. What are you doing? Looking it up on your phone right now ;) He was dabbling, dipping his toe in the water, do I want in that or not?

He would see things that didn't make sense, weird people just like you with a group of people who were laughing, another group fell over and was gone. Over there a group was crying, his rational brain was: how is this God? It doesn't make sense! If God is doing a laughing thing shouldn’t everybody be laughing?

But when he understood a manifestation was the dancing hand of God it would go through and fro, there is what He wants to do and what we need. Somehow somebody here has a manifestation, dancing around the room and touches someone else in a different way for His reasons. It helped him and dial back his rational. God has got this!

Is there flesh involved in this? 100% God and no flesh? But 10% God and 90% you that is 10% more than an hour ago, moving in the right direction.

# Foundation or ceiling?

One other thing: a question he is trying to answer. Is the Bible your foundation or your ceiling?

What he means by the is: a ceiling is a lid or a cap on how far I can go. Is the Bible is my ceiling I need a verse for everything. With a little feather he will need a verse for God shows up with feathers, if I say the Bible is my foundation and telling me about God and how He works. A solid concrete platform of things He has done in history. Building a solid foundation, compared to some other stuff a feather is the tames mildest manifestation ever! You will get so messed up by all the other powerful things God does!

I am trying for the next couple of weeks to build a foundation.

# A theology of wine

The Bible compares the way wine or alcohol affects human beings to the way the Holy Spirit affects human beings. Don’t go off the wrong trail, but God is taking something we can understand. An easy image, every culture has seen this. Easy image for God to grab unto. Sometimes the way alcohol looks on a person is how sometimes the way the Holy Spirit looks on a person.

We are not going for vomiting, it is some of these things, to a degree.

Whenever you read your Bible I would encourage you to read it. How many of us sometimes get into that mode?

Let’s take a look at these verses:

Acts 2:1-4 (ESV) When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Tongues of fire, what did it look like? I don’t know! Something like that happened. A sound like a mighty wind! Tornado: sounded like a freight train. The sound showed up, that attracted everybody to come, they heard something not they felt something. Obvious one: they spoke in tongues. At least 3 different things going on. Paul: tongues of man or angels, glossolalia: speaking in tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:19 (ESV) Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

They didn't understand the tongue, what he was doing there. It can be a human language or some other language.

Acts 2:5-8 (ESV) Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?

Acts 2:11(ESV) we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” Yes they were speaking in tongues, but they could've gotten the download of the language right there, with the expansion if you're a Jewish dude and you can speak Egyptian, then it makes perfect sense to go there. How does this work? Missionaries have this. Do you talk in English and do people hear it in Egyptian? Or do I speak in Egyptian and do I know what I am saying or is it all God and I speak Egyptian and everybody is freaked out by this?

Do you automatically think people are drunk in airports? Or the Hebrews lobby? Never does it mean that, what does that mean? I wonder where they're from.

Acts 2:12-13 (ESV) And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

How did we get from speaking another language to they're all drunk? Something else needs to be going on. Talking in each native language doesn't mean everybody is drunk. When we think about it, what are the behaviors it could be?

Stumbling, people have trouble walking. The ship starts to lean, headed towards you guys. Leaning left. Laughter, at everything even stuff that is not funny. Crying, happy drunks and the sad drunks. Drunk dancing, arms get involved. Slurred to speech, words don’t come out right.

Haven’t we just said that we don’t need an exact verse for but it looks that way?

Acts 2:14-18 (ESV) But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

“‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

Last days? Sounds like back then. Does anything in Joel relate to what was happening in Acts 2? Sound of a wind, tongues of fire and speaking in tongues. Joel 2 we have prophesy and dreams and visions. Are they the same things? No. Can tongues be prophetic? Yeah there can be a prophetic element to them. They didn't exactly match up, but Peter said it. Therefore it was right. What was happening there didn't look like Joel 2.

Sometimes the fulfilment of things doesn't look like what we think it looks like, because that is not what God intended to do. It is true because Peter said it under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

# John

Evangelistic people giving them John, it is the most theological of everything, a book that is profound theology. Luke kind off tells a story, Jesus starts doing stuff. Mark is cool, because Jesus did this and this and now it is over. John is in the beginning was the Word. If you're a non-believer not from the Church you're like: what?

John is profound: in the beginning. Genesis says in the beginning God. John says in the beginning was the Word. Without even saying Jesus; God is the Word. Genesis is called in Hebrew Berah Shjiet, the first word in the beginning. First word of the book.

Greek used the logo’s for 500 years before John used it. It was very Star Wars the Force that was influencing and affecting us without us knowing it. Then John says I will grab that word and make it Christian. In the beginning was the logo’s, the logo’s was with God, and the logo’s was God.

We could talk for days about that! There is so much said in that one sentence. Then John telling all these amazing stories about Jesus, they all have miracles all over the place. John tells us 7 miracles. Each one has a theological purpose. It is the number 7 which must mean something also: completion

John 2:1-4 (ESV) On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.”

On the third day, I wonder why ;)

John 2:5 (ESV) His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Bill has a teaching on that, but I am from another perspective talking about something else.

John 2:6-11 (ESV) Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

Imagine you're the Savior of the world, coming to announce to the planet that you are God incarnate and you are showing the people what you can do. Raise somebody from the dead, majesty not that. I got power over this, I got healing no problem. Deliverance, Kingdom of light driving out the darkness. Anybody in the OT that drove out demons.

First miracle: He created wine, that would not be his first choice! Why?! Why would Jesus do this? Why give people more wine? Somehow it reveals His glory and His disciples who had been following Him believe in Him. Do you think it was for the disciples? Certainly got something out of it. This is Bill’s talk through belief pulling it into this. The best is yet to come; the new wine. The Holy Spirit is the new wine.

Where was the water He used? In the jars, the Jewish way of being purified and cleaned. He takes that and He never does anything, yeah go take that to that guy. Why save the best for last? We’re all sober, this is the good stuff, loosening up and giving worse. I would suggest this thing is from the Old Covenant the old Law, now Jesus the New Wine is the New Husband. It is way better!

What is it symbolized with? Wine, why comparing them unless there is some comparison there? Transition out of Judaism into the New.

Matthew 9:15-17 (ESV) And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch tears away from the garment, and a worse tear is made. Neither is new wine put into old wineskins. If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.”

Again these 2 images are the same thing. Jesus shows us things through pictures. Back in the day you would patch it on there, we would not let it ripped. You wouldn't take a new piece of material, if you wash it, it will shrink and the tear has gotten worse. Same thing with the wine skin image, wine as it ferments it expands the bladder. But if it is already stretched it will rip the bladder and poor over the ground, both your wineskin and wine.

Old wineskin is the Old covenant, and the new thing will not fit in the old structure. The new structure would be the Church, but what is inside the new church is the new wine. What God and the Holy Spirit is doing, with new wine, why would God use this if there is no comparison, except for the fact that the Holy Spirit touches us like this sometimes.

Ephesians 5:18-21 (ESV) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Comparing or contrasting, there needs to be some link. Don’t drive yellow school busses, but play electric guitars. There is no comparison and there is no contrast. Do not be drunk with wine, but be drunk with the Holy Spirit. Filled with the Holy Spirit might look like drunkenness.

Alcohol affects us and influences us. We don’t drive under influence, he could be saying don’t let alcohol be that influencer, but the Holy Spirit be that influencer. Not saying it is a theme of the Bible, but that it pops up. The thing he keeps on coming back to is Bill saying this: “He hides stuff for us”

Kris does this thing only he can do, things happening recently, world series, super bowl and Brexit, Trump election. No one who said that Trump could win, they were all impossibilities! No way this guy can win, and he wins by a landslide. What he is saying: why didn't God just tell us? Well He could've but He wants us to get what He is doing. Why does He hide His message in sports, politics? He is telling us things in a hidden way!

Next time you bump into one of those passages, where they say this is Jesus and then read the whole section they quoted. A whole bunch of the times it has nothing to do with what was going on! Onto us a child is given, keep being a King that is the context but we read it every Christmas, because it is Jesus! Verse of the Messiah was everywhere, but hidden! Not a major theme, but hidden things that God wants us to see.

I don’t get it, I would prefer for the next 3 days we will do Kingdom theology, I will point my point, then move over here and talk about justification 5 days. Jesus says: let me tell you a parable, a story and doesn't bother to explain it. Eat my flesh and drink my blood, got it? God does things differently than we do it! We want it to be linear and rational and we have to get used to Him.

Song of Songs 2:4-5 (ESV) He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. Sustain me with raisins; refresh me with apples, for I am sick with love. (In Dutch and German Bibles it says: Wine house)

In Hebrew it says yayin: it means wine! 139 times in the OT, all those times translated, expect for this one! Why? Translators; how could God have an entire house full of wine?

Septuagint the Greek of the OT, house of wine!

Suggest it is our translators who have changed it, to a house of celebration. If He said house of wine, maybe He meant house of wine!

Experience we have with the Holy Spirit nobody had, only a handful of people had this! We can have this every single day whenever we want! Jeremiah is trying to explain to people who can’t understand what it looks like.

Jeremiah 23:9 (ESV) Concerning the prophets: My heart is broken within me; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, like a man overcome by wine, because of the Lord and because of his holy words.

When the Lord shows up it feels like I am drunk: wine and strong drink, heavier stuff. Overcome by strong drink, because of the Lord! I am not sure, but I think God is making a comparison here for us! When He shows up that is what we look like, feel like and do

.

# Conclusions

I think there is a link in the OT and the NT. If I can establish the way the Holy Spirit sometimes affects us in the natural, like wine does. I can lay a foundation for a whole other things: slurred speech, stumbling, leaning.

One idea that is a foundation, just there. Not a main thrust of Scripture. I am not talking about drinking alcohol, either you or family members have abused alcohol. Okay listen: I am not talking about drinking, but the analogy and the comparison. God is using it to know what it looks like when the Holy Spirit shows up!

One step further: Is it possible that people turn to alcohol because they're getting a need met in there instead of in God? Search for joy, my life is a mess! Some to forget about pain and problems, actually want peace and healing? Some people to fit in, don’t like it. I want to belong, friendship, fellowship. Some to push down their fears, but they're looking for courage. Some to let their guard down, the truth is in the wine. Big political decision and they say what they really think about the decision they want to do. Pursuit of truth.

Suggest that those desires within each one of us are a part of us, but there is a good way and an inappropriate way to meet them, we have all kinds of desires. Looking at other people, wine. God says come to Me and I will sort those out for you.