

ONE STEP TO FREEDOM: CHAPTER 1: Planning For Victory

Lesson 2: IS ALCOHOLISM A DISEASE?

If alcoholism is a disease:

- 1. It is the only disease that is contracted by an act of the will.(choice)*
- 2. It is the only disease that requires a license to distribute or sell.*
- 3. It is the only disease that is bottled and sold.*
- 4. It is the only disease that produces revenue for the government.*
- 5. It is the only disease that provokes crime.*
- 6. It is the only disease that is habit-forming.*
- 7. It is the only disease that is spread by advertising.*
- 8. It is the only disease for which we can get arrested and incarcerated.*
- 9. It is the only disease that brings death on the highways.*
- 10. It is the only disease that requires an age limit to contract.*
- 11. It is the only disease without germ or virus, and for which there is no corrective medicine.*
- 12. It is the only disease that bars a patient from the kingdom of God (unless he repents).*

Pub med; Addiction does not meet the criteria specified for a core disease entity, namely the presence of a primary measurable deviation from physiologic or anatomical norm. *Addiction is self-acquired and is not transmissible, not contagious, not autoimmune, not hereditary, not degenerative or traumatic. Treatment consists of little more than stopping a given behaviour. True diseases worsen if left untreated. No access to alcohol/drugs/anything means no alcoholism/addiction. At best, addiction is a maladaptive response to an underlying condition, such as depression or a nonspecific inability to cope with the world.

**The world labels drunkenness/alcoholism as a disease.*

**God's word tells us drunkenness is one of many manifestations of the disease of sin:*

Galatians 5:19-21 (ASV) Now the works of the flesh (sinful nature) are manifest, which are these: fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, *sorcery (witchcraft), enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, wild parties, envyings, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who (habitually) practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

**What God's Word tells us about worldly counsel/wisdom:*

1 Corinthians 3:19 (AMP)¹⁹ For this world's wisdom is foolishness absurdity and stupidity with God, for it is written, God lays hold of the wise in their [own] craftiness;²⁰ and again, "THE LORD KNOWS THE THOUGHTS of the [humanly] wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS.

Colossians 2:8 (AMP)⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through worldly philosophy and empty deception; pseudo-intellectual babble, according to the tradition and musings of mere men, following the elementary principles of this world, rather than following the truth—the teachings of Christ.

2 Peter 2:19 (AMP)¹⁹ They promise them liberty, when they themselves are the slaves of depravity—for by whatever anyone is defeated and overcome, to that person, thing, philosophy, or concept he is continually enslaved.

Psalms 1:1(AMP)¹ Blessed (happy, fortunate, prosperous, and enviable) is the man who walks and lives NOT in the counsel of the ungodly following their advice, their plans and purposes.

God's wisdom and counsel:

Proverbs 21:30 (AMP)³⁰ There is no human wisdom or understanding Or counsel that can prevail against the LORD.

**What God's word says about alcoholism/drunkenness:*

Proverbs 20:1(NKJV) Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV)¹⁸ And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Proverbs 23:20-21(AMP) ²⁰ Do not associate with heavy drinkers of wine, Or with gluttonous eaters of meat,²¹ For the heavy drinker and the glutton will come to poverty, And the drowsiness of overindulgence will clothe one with rags.

Proverbs 23:29-35 (NLT)²⁹ Who has anguish? Who has sorrow? Who is always fighting? Who is always complaining? Who has unnecessary bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? ³⁰ It is the one who spends long hours in the taverns, trying out new drinks.³¹ Don't gaze at the wine, seeing how red it is, how it sparkles in the cup, how smoothly it goes down.³² For in the end it bites like a poisonous snake; it stings like a viper.³³ You will see hallucinations, and you will say crazy things.³⁴ You will stagger like a sailor tossed at sea, clinging to a swaying mast. ³⁵ And you will say, "They hit me, but I didn't feel it. I didn't even know it when they beat me up. When will I wake up so I can look for another drink?"

Luke 21:34 (AMP) ³⁴ But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the giddiness and headache and nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to the business of this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose

Isaiah 5:22(NLT) What woe/sorrow for those who are heroes at drinking wine and boast about all the alcohol they can hold.

** If you are habitually drinking to excess you are either a severely backslidden believer or your not a believer.*

1 John 3:6 (AMP) ⁶ No one who abides in Him [who remains united in fellowship with Him deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] practices sin. No one who habitually sins has seen Him or known Him.

** There is a severe warning against believers who commit the "willful sin" of minimizing the work of Christ on the cross!*

Hebrews 10:26-27 (AMP) ²⁶ For if we go on willfully and deliberately sinning after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice [to atone] for our sins [that is, no further offering to anticipate], ²⁷ but a kind of awful and terrifying expectation of [divine] judgment and **THE FURY OF A FIRE and BURNING WRATH WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES** [those who put themselves in opposition to God].

**This is a heinous sin that is subject to God 's judgment, not hell but discipline to the believer:*

Hebrews 10:29 (AMP) ²⁹ How much greater punishment do you think he will deserve who has rejected and trampled under foot the Son of God, and has considered unclean and common the blood of the covenant that sanctified him and has insulted the Spirit of grace who imparts the unmerited favor and blessing of God?

** and loss of rewards for the believer-Sliding in to heaven:*

1 Corinthians 3:13-15 (NKJV) ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day of judgement will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Summation: **Worldly counsel tells the alcoholic/addict that they have a disease, *it's not their fault, *once an alcoholic/addict always an alcoholic/addict and they will be forever recovering.*

***James 1:14-15 (AMP) ¹⁴ But every person is tempted when he is drawn away, enticed and baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions).¹⁵ Then the evil desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully matured, brings forth death.**

***2 Corinthians 5:17(NKJV) ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**

**WE FIND TRUE FREEDOM BY REPENTING OF OUR SINS TO GOD AND THROUGH FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST:*

2 Corinthians 3:16-17(AMP) ¹⁶ but whenever a person turns in repentance and faith to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is The Spirit, and where The Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty; emancipation from bondage; true freedom.

**The Holy Spirit of God was given to Jesus at his baptism:*

Matthew 3:16-17 (NKJV)¹⁶ When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷ And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

**The anointing power of The Holy Spirit of God upon Jesus*

Luke 4:18-19 (AMP) Jesus speaking in the temple ¹⁸ “THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME (the Messiah), BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO ANNOUNCE RELEASE (pardon, forgiveness) TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED (downtrodden, bruised, crushed by tragedy),¹⁹ TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD [the day when salvation and the favor of God abound greatly].”

**Through faith in Jesus Christ-The power of The Holy Spirit of God makes you free from the power of sin and death:*

Romans 8:2 (CEV) ² The Holy Spirit will give you life that comes from Christ Jesus and will set you free from sin and death.

John 8:36 (NKJV) ³⁶ Therefore if the Son of God, Jesus Christ makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Practical application:

Romans 10:9 (AMP) ⁹ if you acknowledge and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord [recognizing His power, authority, and majesty as God], and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.