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CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

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Certification

The undersigned certifies that he has read and hereby recommends for acceptance of grace international bible university of USA. A study entitled “Philosophy of Alcoholism and Christianity” in a partial fulfillment for the award of the degree of doctorate for grace international bible university of USA

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Date

Declaration

I Fabian Mwoshezi Bagarama, declare that this dissertation is my original work work and that it has not been presented and will not be presented to any other university for a similar or any other degree awards

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Dedication

To my beloved wife Coclestina Kemilembe, my sons Elisha Bagarama, Jesse Bagaramma and John Bagarama, whose love encouragement and support made this dissertation possible.

Acknowledgement

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has enabled me by his power and spirit to be able to write this thesis. Also I wish to sincerely express my gratitude to my beloved supervisor Mafigolo Emmanuel Peter (PhD), for his love, tireless support and encouragement throughout the period of the study. I do also thank my beloved Castus Ndamugoba for financial support. I also thank the staff of Grace International Bible University for accommodating me into their university programme.

Motto

Wisdom is a gift from God it carries a person to stand before the kings.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Certification i

Declaration..... ii

Copyright iii

Dedication iv

Acknowledgement v

Motto..... vi

Table of content vii

PART ONE

The Theological problems of alcohol consumption 1

General information 1

Dissertation for Doctorate Programme on Philosophy of alcohol consumption and christianity. 12

Drunkard, drunkenness and drunkards differentiated..... 16

The challenge of Alcohol consumption to church growth and vitality..... 36

Alcoholism is dispersed through human agents 38

Strategies for spritual warfare against alcoholism in the church 39

Demons influence alcoholics 41

Alcoholism in current time 42

The church 44

The Greek: understanding of man	48
The Hebrew: understanding of man.....	48
The disease of the spirit of man	52
The heart of man	57
The mind of man.....	58
The inner man	59

PART TWO

Reflecting the current alcohol problems in the Bible	60
The influence of alcohol on human ethics	67
Alcoholism an instrument of apostasy.....	76
Apostasy comes by hearing	78
The Holy Spirit reveals the sin of alcohol consumption.....	79
The master key for fighting alcoholism in the Church	80
Alcoholism the spiritual catalyst for apostasy	86
The outlook of Moslems on alcohol consumption.....	90
Faith and stedness in the word	91
The church a special people of God.....	94
The alcoholics in the mirror of the psychologists.....	94
A re- newed mind towards the negative impacts of alcohol drinking in the church, culture, family and the country.....	102

Alcoholism is the fruit of a reprobate mind 103
Conscience 103

PART THREE

Alcohol consumption in Tanzania 105
Gods and goddesses of attitudes' towards drinking alcohol 109
Canaanites 112
Babylonians 115
Greeks 117
Ammonites 117
Assyrians 118
Will Climate Change Reduce Alcoholism? 122

PART FOUR

Recommendation 127
Conclusion 129
Reference 131

PART ONE

The Theological problems of alcohol consumption

General information

Alcohol is defined as a colorless and inflammable liquid produced by fermentation and distillation (Webster, 1987); but some of the alcoholic liquors are consumed without distillation. Alcohol consumptions are global unsolved problems in the modern world according to the World Health Organization (WHO) reports. The WHO, Expert committee on mental, Health reports the Alcoholism subcommittee second report in General way back in 1952 (WHO, 1952). It appears the early 1950s was the period which highlighted medical and care taking professionals to seriously recognize the need to assume responsibility for the care and study of alcoholism (Chafetz *et al*; 1970) it is over seventy years now the WHO is still fighting an unsolved war on alcoholism. The period of seventy years has a specific meaning in the Bible. The period of seventy years was the period of bondage of Judah and the desolation of Jerusalem. We read in scriptures;

In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by Book the number of the years where of the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem (Daniel 9:2)

For thus saith the Lord, that after seventy years he accomplished at Babylon I will visit you and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place(Jeremiah 29:10)

Seventy years of the world bondage under alcoholism has passed and yet the world is continually being destroyed, by alcohol consumption. The problem of alcoholism is still a hot agenda in the

WHO, today and has developed specific policies on alcoholism and alcohol consumption in the world (WHO, 2004); according to researchers, alcoholism is still the global public and health unsolved problems (WHO, 2011), alcohol been identified as the cause of increased violence incidences in this world (WHO, 2005). The Holy Spirit is crying;

Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow?

Who health contentions? Who hath babbling?

Who health wounds without cause? Who

hath redness of eyes? They that tarry

long at the wine they that go to

seek mixed wine (Proverbs 23:29, 30)

The WHO has reported the negative impact of alcohol consumption on developing societies or developing countries (WHO, 2002); and subsequently the world's health care taker body has been actively developing global strategy to reduce harmful use of alcohol (WHO, 2002). However, worldwide alcohol consumption contributes to 3.3 million deaths and 5.1% of Disability Adjusted life years and its use is linked with more than 200 diseases and injury conditions (WHO, 2014). Some scriptures give us the impact of negative effects of alcohol consumption on human health.

Drinking intoxicated wine leads to the fading of the beauty as flower as drunkards are negatively impacted by wine through diseases (Isaiah 28:1). Look not show upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder (Proverbs 23: 31, 32). “For to be carnally minded is death” (Romans 8: 6a) “for the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23a). The Lord

God is totally against the consumption of intoxicating drinks; **“woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them”** (Isaiah 5:11) **“ woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine and men of strength to mingle strong drink”** (Isaiah 5 :22).

In sub-Saharan Africa alcohol misuse is a leading avoidable risk factor accounting for a substantial portion of the region’s global burden of death and disability (Lim *et al*; 2012; Casswell and Thamarangsi (2009). Drinking behaviors and patterns in the Africa region are the second worst worldwide due to high rates of binge drinking and alcohol dependence (Lim *et al*; 2012; Casswell and Thamarangsi (2009). Heavy alcohol consumption is considered as another trap for Africa’s socio-economic development (Beckman, 1988). Alcohol consumption in Africa is readily available to all people gender and age and it is part of African’s and culture as reported in Zambia (Colson and Scudder, (1988); in Nigeria (Olurunfemi, 1984; Oshodin, 1984; Obot (2000); Emeka Dumbili (2013). Alcohol consumption is part of culture in Tanzania (Shayo *et al*; 2000); as well as in Uganda (Ssebunnya *et al*; 2020).

Uncontrolled alcohol consumption has been reported in Kenya (WHO, 2005; Anne Kendagor *et al*.,2018). The acceptances of alcohol consumption without considering the negative health and economic impacts have exacerbated the problem of alcoholism in the African continent. Africans are destroying themselves because they lack the knowledge of this deadly sin before the Almighty God.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge become thou hast rejected knowledge I will also reject thee that thou shall be no priest to me seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget they children (Hosea 4:6).

The youth are the potential human resource for the development of this world yet they are the most victims of alcoholism. The youth in East Africa, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania have been reported to have been negatively impacted by alcohol consumption (Francis *et al*; 2014). For example in Tanzania alcohol is readily available and is cheap making it attractive to consumers (Bovet, 2001), the similar situation is for Uganda (Ssbunnya *et al*; 2020). Traditional alcohol beverages- rather than “commercial recorded” alcohol constitute for almost 90 percent of the alcohol consumed in Tanzania (WHO, 2004). Local alcoholic drinks are concentrated in rural area and are the cause of destroying youth both boys and girls in absence of regulating mechanisms at family and community level. I have witnessed personally during my visit to a certain Sukuma family household a child in class two given a bottle of commercial “Safari beer” to drink in the public by his parents. The parents were drunkards and so they were influencing not only their children but also grandchildren to become wine bibbers. Those parents without the true fear and worship of God are like the preacher the son of David King in Jerusalem who lost the insight of the fear of God and resorted to seek happiness in wine bibbing.

I sought in mine heart to give myself into wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life. (Ecclesiastes 1:1:2:3)

Alcoholism is a symptom of an underlying personality disorder, with psychological factors leading to the self- destructive use of this death causing agent (Chafetz *et al*; 1970). Strong oral childhood influences is considered a cause of excessive drinking and change of mood is the most contribution of alcohol to the individual under the influence of alcohol the adult regress to a childhood level in which he derives pleasure from drinking that is unrelated to logic (Freud,1930). Freud spoke of a reactivation of pressed homosexual tracts and considered this to

be the reason why men disappointed by women frequented bars (Freud, 1925). Alcoholism is considered as a flight from homosexual impulses, bad thoughts and masturbatory guilt (Brill 1919). Addiction to sadistic drives and oedipal conflicts results into alcoholism (Glover, 1932). Sachs viewed alcoholism as the compromise between hysterical and obsessive-compulsive neuroses (Sachs, 1929). Factors that cause mental depression also lead to alcohol consumption addiction (Rado, 1933). The motives to drink alcohol are developed from the innermost part of an individual, these self-destructive drives of the alcoholic could be termed as “**Chronic suicide**” (Menninger, 1938). But also feelings of inadequacy internalized fears of failure and deficiencies in social relationships are the main forces operating in the alcoholic (Klebanoff, 1947). Tiebout believes that the alcohol has an unconscious need to dominate together with feelings of loneliness and isolation (Tiebout, 1951). Often alcoholics are characterized by a character disorder distinguished by excessive demandingness and an inability to carry out sustained effort and to express feelings of hostility and rage; alcohol is utilized to satisfy and pacify the alcoholic frustrated needs (Knight 1937). Alcoholism is brought out of the heart which is void of the word of God; it is a symptom of the diseased heart. The diseased heart and a deceived one lead a victim to alcoholism.

The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

Alcohol consumption is associated with more than 200 diseases and injury conditions (WHO, 2014) increased mental disease incidences (Sorsdahl *et al*; 2012; Hollingshead and Redlich, 1958; Kurland, 1956; Queen, 1940). The quality and frequency of alcohol consumption cause liver disease (Zakhari and Li, 2001); indeed alcoholism is a cause of mortality and shortening of life-years because of its negative impact on human health.

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments; for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee (Proverbs 3:1-2)

But it shall come to pass, if thou will not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee and overtake thee. The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, which thou goest to possess it. The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt and with emerods and with the scab and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed (Deuteronomy 28:15, 21, 27).

Alcohol consumption impacts human mental health and behavior. This behavioral dependence on alcohol is influenced by a diversity of factors. According to Fenichel alcoholism was an impulse neurosis, rooted in an oral and narcissistic personality structure (Fenichel, 1945). Alcoholism is a drive of the victim longing to return to the passively obtained gratifications of infancy (Lorand, 1945). Either alcoholism is based on impulses of self-destruction and guilt (Meaninger, 1938). Alcoholism is also regarded as gratifying oral and dependent needs, hostile wishes against family members and masochistic needs (Knight, 1937). Alcoholism develops from a perceptual dependence which is revealed as motivational dependence, dependence in interpersonal relationships, dependency as a form of morality (Witkin *et al*; 1959). The change in human behavior is the main characteristic of the alcoholic (Yu, 2003). Alcoholism stimulates social instability (Singer *et al*; 1964; Straus and Bacon, (1957); the change in human behavior often leads into suicide (Durkheim, 1940). Indeed alcoholism is a cause of wide spread violence (Cook and Moore, 1993); and indeed alcoholism is the cause of widespread crimes in social settings (Blane, 1965; Williams, 1966). Socio-economic status of the society including the

destruction of culture and cultural values is often a product of alcoholism (Mcknight,2002) social and human life factors that increase anxiety and depression tend to increase alcoholism (Williams, 1966). The social fabrics of the society or the community are easily destroyed by alcoholism. And therefore the scripture says;

Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it

(Proverbs 22:6). The negative effects of alcohol to man starts in the womb, according to Clarren *et al;* (1978) the prenatal exposure to alcohol (ethanol) resulted into the birth of children with brain malformations. The child in the womb is likely to be affected by several types of alcohols consumed by the mother, influencing the physiological, psychological and social variables to the mother (Carlson and Carlson, 1960). The child in the womb has to be protected from alcohol toxic effects but unfortunately this is not done even among the so called nominal Christians. But the scripture says;

Before I forms thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctifies thee and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations(Jeremiah1:5).

The Global negative aspects of alcoholism: The Case of HIV/AIDS

The UNAIDS 2013, report on the global AIDS epidemic and aging reveals that out of the global total 35.3 million (32.2 million-38.8 million) people living with HIV on estimated (3.2 million-3.9 million) are people 50 years or older (Mangi et al; 2014). Jesus told his disciples that in the last days before He returned there will be famine and pestilences. Pestilences were listed by the Lord as sign before his second coming. During the past epidemics like the bubonic plague many were killed in the world but the current, HIV/ AIDS plague has been the most destructive epidemic to sweep the entire world, in response to changes in life- style and social ethics among the wicked and rebellious generation of the twentieth century (Jeremia, www.

Wordpublishing.com). According to Jeremiah, AIDS could be the pestilence the Lord Jesus described in the Olivet discourse (Matthew 24:7, KJV). But Alcohol consumption and sex are social interconnected sins (Kabamanya *et al*; 2014). Alcohol drinking is a risk factor towards the spread of AIDS through sexual intercourse. Research results show high prevalence of diseases such as HIV, HBV, HCV and syphilis in Mwanza region in northern Tanzania, and alcohol consumption was a risk factor associated with the spread of these diseases (Kabamanya *et al*; 2014). According to the UNAIDS report 2013; most of HIV/AIDS infested people in the world (50%) live in sub-Saharan Africa; the same region is burdened with heavy episodic alcohol drinking (Beckman, 1988; WHO, 2009). The WHO has been reporting an increase in alcohol consumption in sub-Saharan Africa (WHO, 2002). Alcohol causes diseases and also causes impairment to treatment of diseases for example Diabetic (Melta *et al*; 2014).

Many children are born in Africa under heavy episodic alcohol drinking of mothers are born to be sent to medication as soon as they are born (Grey and Henderson, 2006; Walker *et al*; 2011; Matunga Mpelo *et al*; 2018). Sub-Saharan Africa is under other burdens such as prevalence of the disease, hunger and poverty and all which are directly and indirectly influenced by Alcoholism causing the dream of Africa to be almost nonexistent. But there is hope in Jesus Christ for sub-Saharan Africa. The only hope for Africa is the Lord Jesus Christ;

Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest (Matthew 11: 28)

If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heat their land (2 Chronicles 7:14). Bless the lord o my soul and

forget not all his benefits. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who health all they diseases

(Psalm 103: 2.3 KJV)

Africa continent is considered to have the majority of Christians in the world by the year 2000 (O'Donovan Jr. 2008); yet despite the highest prevalence of Christians the continent is the most burden with poverty, crimes, violence and underdevelopment for many years. Many Christians in Africa worship THE UNKNOWN God. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Athenians; that they were worshipping The Unknown God despite their zeal in that professed religion. Many Christians in Africa, have missed the way of salvation although they proclaim Jesus Christ to be their Lord, the Way, Truth and Life. The Apostle Paul warned against the worship of gods, philosophy and psychology in religious rituals instead of worshipping the True Living God under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

For as I passed by and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, To The Unknown God. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you (Acts 17: 23). Many Africans received the Gospel but it was not the Gospel of truth, because they continued to embrace their ways of lives which detached them from true holiness to date.

Paul writes to the Ephesians; **“in whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the world of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after that ye believed ye were sealed with that Holy spirit of promise”** (Ephesians 1: 13) .

The alcohol sex relationship linkage has been exacerbated by the advancement of information technology and the advertisement of both pornographic and alcohol brands via television networks; socio- media platform such as whatsapp, U-tube, Twitter, facebook etc. The prophet Daniel prophesied about the incoming advancement of scientific knowledge of global and gigantic significance of our days and **“Knowledge shall be increased”** (Daniel 12: 4c). Through

information and technology advancement and access the world and the specifically the church as the body of Christ is constantly being invaded by demonic influences of alcoholism.

Paul writes to the church of Ephesians exhorting them to stand in the truth and doctrine purity so that the church could stand firmly and make known the power of the name of Jesus to the heavenly principalities.

To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:10).

Without the power of the Holy Spirit the church and the youth in particular cannot stand against; the evil power of Satan who is destroying them using the alcoholism sword. For this cause the Scriptures is exhorting the church.

Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil days and having done all to stand
(Ephesians 6:11-13)

The alcohol-sex linkage has negative impacts to all victims of alcohol addiction as it leads to complete destruction of the person with the associated diseased. Alcohol cannot deliver its victim from the trap of the strange woman.

My son , if thou will receive my words and hide my commandments with thee so that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words ; which

forsaketh the guide of her youth and forgetteth the covenant of her God. For her house inclineth unto death and her paths unto the dead (Proverbs 2:1, 2, 16-18)

For the lips of a strange woman drop as a honey comb, and her mount is smoother than oil. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold of hell (Proverbs 5: 3-5)

To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart, neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life (Prov.6: 24-25). Alcoholism causes poverty of its victims.

And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding. And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of a harlot, and subtile of heart. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter or as a fool to the correction of the stocks. Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth that it is for his life (Proverbs 7:7,10, 22-23). Alcohol is fire which will never live its victim free and with peace.

Can a man take fire in his bosom and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbor's wife, whosoever touch her shall not be innocent (Proverbs 6: 27-29). These scriptures are a warning of God to man because of the strong alcohol-sex linkage in the life of man.

The above scriptures unfold the punishment of adultery committed by man under the influence of alcohol addiction. Sex is fire which will never leave a person unburned it is shown by the word of

God, to be a dart that goes through the liver, killing the victim. Through sex acts the world continue to witness colossal HIV/AIDS infections ; those infections are the dart piercing the livers of people the fire burning tearing men apart as the lion tears its prey. Alcohol victims are tiered by illness and diseases.

**But whose committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding; he that doeth it
destroyed his own soul (Proverbs 6:32)**

**DISSERTATION FOR DOCTORATE PROGRAMME ON PHILOSOPHY OF
ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND CHRISTIANITY.**

Introduction

Philosophy is the critical analysis of fundamental concept of human inquiry; and the discussion of how human thought and action ought to function as well as the description of the nature of reality. Philosophical inquiry centers on the quest of truth about crucial issues and this particular case the influence of alcohol to the life of man as reflected in the Bible the word of God.

The history of man after his fall in Genesis 3 was later trapped by the snare of alcohol intoxication a noted self-destruction act in Genesis 9:20. **“And Noah began to be a husband and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunk; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brethren without”**. Subsequently Noah the righteous man who got the grace of the LORD to be saved from the flood (Genesis 7: 1-7). When the flood abated Noah came from the Ark, God Bless him and made a covenant with him (Genesis 9:8).

But this righteous man, was also the first man to drink wine and to become drunken (Genesis 9:20-21). The flood destroyed every living thing but when God replenished life once again the first tree-crop God showed Noah was the olive tree and not the vine. Genesis 8: 10-11 he waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. **“When the dove returned to him in the evening there in its beak was a fleshly plucked olive leaf”**. Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. Both the dove and olive tree were signs of the Holy Spirit (Mathew 3:16) and the re-created life after destruction under flood.

Noah did not act on the provided sign of the olive tree he went on to be the husband man of vine dressing and wine processing and the first man in history to become drunk. Lot the son to Abram’s brother departed with Abram from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan, (Genesis 11:31; Genesis 12:1-5). Because of famine Abram went with Lot into Egypt (Genesis 12:10-20). Abram came out of Egypt with Lot both Lot and Abram were rich in flocks (Genesis 13:2.3). Because of strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s cattle and herdsmen of Lot’s cattle (Genesis 13:7). The two men got separated; Lot chose the Jordan plain and settled in Sodom and Gomorrah, but the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly. While in Sodom the war broke between the Chedorlaomer the king of Elam and with Tidal king of nations and Amraphel king of Shiner and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings fought the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah and defeated them. And they took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son, who dwelt in Sodom and his goods and departed (Genesis 14: 12). But Abram with his three hundred and eighteen trained servants born in his house fought a recompensing war, won victory and brought back Lot and his substance (Genesis 14:14-15). But Lot didn’t learn any lesson from being taken captive and to be delivered by a man whom he separated from because of strife. He

continued to live among the wicked and evil people and the worst was coming. God eventually decided to judge the wicked men of Sodom and Gomorrah.

“And the Lord said because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great and because their sin is very grievous, I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it which is come unto me and if not I will know” (Genesis 18:20-21). Abram made intercessions before the Lord for mercy and redemption. (Genesis 18:22-33). The time arrived for Sodom and Gomorrah to be judged; God showed mercy to Lot and his family (Genesis 18:22-33). Eventually Sodom and Gomorrah were judged; God showed mercy to Lot and his family (Genesis 19:12-27). Lot went up out of Zoar and dwelt in the mountain and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar and dwelt in a cave he and his two daughter. The two daughters the older and the younger one made wine in succession made wine and made their father drunk and lay with him and they got pregnancy through that shameful act, the older became the mother of the Ammonites. The younger daughter became the mother of the Moabites the pagan nations that are enemies to Israel to this date. The daughters of Lot although they were saved from the destructive fire in Sodom they still had the spiritual mentality of the wicked people they were- living with, they were carnal and they wrote a shame full history of being the first ever girls to have slept with their father in the Bible. Likewise Lot left the shameful history of being the first ever father in the history of the Bible to lay and have children with his daughters because of alcohol intoxication. This is the ever and first reported incidence of alcohol- sex relationship in the Bible. However to date there are so called Christians who have fallen in the alcohol-sex trap to the extent of lying with their children.

I know the case to have been reported from Morogoro, in Eastern Tanzania where by a woman because of being on maternity leave left her husband to sleep with her daughter, because the

house they were living in was small limited in rooms. This shameful father layed with her daughter who was bold enough to report the incidence to her mother. The mother reported to the police authority the man was prosecuted and sent to jail in prison. Incidencies of older mature people lying with young children are common assuming the national social disaster. Despite the fact that the history of alcohol fermented wine is as old as the history of man since Genesis. The philosophy of alcohol consumption and Christianity has received little attention among Bible scholars. This research work is to unfold the knowledge and wisdom of alcohol consumption destruction from the background of the Bible wisdom and knowledge. The study appears to be relevant because alcohol intoxication is a current global problem. Alcohol is part and parcel of every day's life and is tearing the church apart.

Did Jesus Drink Intoxicated Wine?

The question being asked by many "Did Jesus Christ make fermented intoxicating wine during the marriage in Cana of Galilee?" (John 2: 1-11). This a debate of many centuries both within and without the church. Most of Christians and fake teachers of the Bible, make people to go astray by saying that Jesus made an intoxicating wine to justify their drunkerndness behavior in the church. The Law of Moses forbided the Nazarites and the Priests from taking intoxicating drinks. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Apostle and the High Priest counted worthy of more glory than Moses (Heb. 3:1-6). The perfect Prist Jesus Christ is the author of eternal salvation (Heb. 5:9). Christ is the Lamb of God without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:19). This Holy Son of God in no way He could have defiled Himself by drinking intoxicated fermented wine. The master of the feast said "**when the ruler of the feast had tested the water that was made wine and know not whence it was, (but the servants which drew the water knew) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom and saith unto him, Every , at the beginning**

doth set forth good wine; Greek(oinos,wine) and when men have well drunk (Greek, methuo; to drink to intoxication) then that which is worse (Greek elasson elatton) less under worse, younger) but thou hast kept the good (Greek, oinos) wine until now”.

Therefore the wine which the Lord Jesus in Cana of Galilee was not that wine for making people became intoxicated to lose their sense as many enemies of the Bible claim.

Drunkard, drunkenness and drunkards differentiated

A drunkard is a person who has grown into the habit of frequent intake of intoxicating drinks in abundance. Deuteronomy 21:20; **“and they shall say unto the elders of his city this son is stubborn and rebellious he will not obey our voice he is a glutton and a drunkard”**, in

Hebrew is translated (Saba: a wine bibber).

In Isaiah 24:10; the scripture says; “the earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard and shall be removed like a cottage and the transgression there of shall be heavy upon it and it shall fall and not rise again . In this scripture the Hebrew translation of drunken is shikhor shikhor (H 7910) a state or a habit of an intoxicated drunkard man”. In Isaiah 56:12 come ye, say they, **“I will fetch wine and will fill ourselves with strong drink and much more abundant”** the Hebrew translation for the strong drink, is shekar an intoxicant alcoholic liquor. Paul the apostle writes about the drunkard in 1 Corinthians 5:11; **“but now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator or covetous or an idolater or a railer or a drunkard or an extortioner with such one not to eat”**. In the above scripture the Greek translation of the drunkard is (methusis: one intoxicated with strong drinks.

On the other hand the word drunkenness is close to intoxication with strong drinks but it seems to point to the complete action. In Jeremiah 13:13 then shalt thou say unto them, **“this saith the**

Lord, behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne and the priests and the prophets and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with drunkenness". The word in Hebrew used for drunkenness in the above scripture is shikkarom (H 7943) which points to intoxication. The condition of failing to have sound judgement. The Lord Jesus Christ warned us his followers of the corruption hidden in drunkness in Luke 21:34; and he said; **"take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness and care of this life and so the day come upon your unawares"**. In this scripture the Greek translation of the word drunkenness is methe, (G.3178) which means intoxication. Paul wrote to the Romans warning them against the habit of being drunk with intoxicating drinks. Romans 13:13; **"let us walk honestly as in the day not in rioting and drunkenness not in strife and envying"**. The translation of drunkness in the scripture is (methe) which also in Greek means intoxication.

Drunkards are the group of people gathered together with the objective to drink intoxicating drinks as perpetual habit. Psalm 69:12; **"They that sit in the gate speak against me and I was the song of the drunkards"**, in this scripture the Hebrew translation of drunkards is Shathah (H 8354) a banquet of drinking. In Isaiah 28:1; **"Woe to the crown of pride to the drunkards is Shathah (H 8354) a banquet of drinking"**. In Isaiah 28:1; the scripture says; **"Woe to the crown of pride to the drunkard of Ephraim (Israel) whose glorious beauty is a fading flower which are on the head of the fat valleys of them which are overcome with wine. Ephraim had rebelled against God and God turned to be wine bibbers of fermented wine"**; shikhor shikhor (H 7910) and become intoxicated and remained in that state and habit. The prophet Joel was shocked by the increased number of drunkards. In Joel 1:5; **"Awake, ye drunkards and**

weep; and howl all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine: for it is cut off from your mouth". The Greek translation of drunkards in Joel 1: 5; is also shikhor shikhor (H 7910).

The prophet Nahum, according to Nahum 1:10; **"For while they be folden together as thorns and while they are drunken as drunkards they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry"**. In this scripture the word drunkards is translated in Hebrew language as Saba (H5433) to become topsy a wine bibber. Paul writes warning the habit of Christians becoming drunkards in 1 Corinthians 6:10; **"Nor thieves not covetous nor drunkards nor revilers nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God"**, the Greek translation of the word drunkards in the above scripture is (mēthusos, a sot of drunkard). Drunkards represent a community or a nation dominated by the evil spirit of living in the persistent habit of taking in toxicating liquors (Isa.28:1, 3).

The negative effects of taking in fermented, intoxicating liquors the Bible perspective, fermented alcoholic liquors cause brain intoxication and malfunctioning leading to ungodly human behavior and character. Indeed this is the sin which ignites other sins. Noah drank of the wine and was drunken and was uncovered within his tent (Genesis 9:21-22). Lot the son of Abram's brother got drunk following an evil plan of his two daughters who made fermented wine and gave it to their fathers who was intoxicated with the wine leading to making an act of fornication without his mind perceiving what was going on (Gen.19:32,35). This evil act led to Lot having children with two of his daughter the firstborn bare a son and called his name Moab, the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. And the younger she also bare a son and called his name Ben- ammi the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day (Genesis 19:37, 38) .The children of Lot later became the great enemies of the sons of Jacob Israel as the nation (2 Chronicles 20:1-27; 2Sam.11:1).The seed planted by Lot is bearing fruit

today as the national of Israel continue to face opposition from the nations of Jordan and Lebanon.

Drinking and being in the habit of taking intoxicated alcoholic liquors lead to many making evil decisions. For example King David knew that he had committed the sin of adultery with the wife of Uriah, by laying with Bathsheba the daughter of Eliam, yet he tried to intoxicate Uriah with fermented strong liquors so that Uriah would go to his wife and sleep with her to cover, king David's sin. But God did not allow that evil scheme to succeed, Uriah slept in the king's palace and left to go back to the warfront to join his loved Israel's soldiers (2 Sam. 11:6-13).

Strong liquors have been shown to make many to forget or abandon their responsibilities individually or nationally. Benhardad the king of Syria with his entire host in confederation with thirty and two kings came to war against Israel when Ahab was a king in Israel. Ahab. But instead of being focused on the war plan they were busy drinking and eating till when the small youthful army of Israel smote and completely demolished the Syrians (1 Kings 20:16-18) Durnkedness led to the loss of lives because of poor leadership of the king of Syria. Under the influence of strong drinks the eyes could not see real reality and the power of Israel, but saw strange but things (Proverbs 23:33, 34).

Thine eyes shall behold strange women and thine heart shall utter perverse things yea thou shalt be as that lieth down in the midst of the sea or as he that lieth upon the top of a most. King Elah of Israel was killed by his servant Zimri the captain of half his chariots in Tirzah while the king was intoxicated with wine (1 Kings 16:9-10)

Excessive drinking of intoxicated wine undermines the position of the leader and especially the King, the leader of the nation. The scriptures warn kings of this evil habit, Proverbs 31:4-6 **“It is not for kings O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine nor for princes strong drink. Lest**

they drink and forget the law and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted”. The world cannot forget the barbaric acts committed by the late president of Uganda who was alcoholic and how he murdered many people, including the servants of God. Indeed even Vladimir Putin the Russian president who initiated the murder of Ukrainian people is a strong consumer of VODKA the Russian most intoxicating strong spirit. The negative effects of strong drinks include the self-destruction of individuals who frequent alcohol drinking; Proverbs 23: 29-33 **“Who hath woe? Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine they that go to seek mixed wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder”** (Proverbs 23:29-33).The adder stings from alcohol include diseases and death linked with alcoholism. A strong drink destroys the body of an individual which is the temple of God. In 1Corinthians 3:16, 17; Paul writes; **Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, Him shall God destroy for the temple of God is holy which temple ye are.** The church should be taught that alcoholism will be judged by Almighty God

Reflecting the current alcohol problems from the bible

Chronic alcohol drinkers are permanently in short of food supplies to feed their families. In Proverbs 12:24, 27; we read **“The hand of the diligent shall bear rule but the slothfull shall be under tribute. The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting but the substance of a diligent man is precious”**. The scripture says; **“He becometh poor that dealleth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich”** (Proverb 10:4). There is the relationship between neighborhood poverty and alcohol consumption in many areas in

Tanzania. The history of alcoholism is as old as the history of man himself, as reflected in the Bible. Noah was the first man to drink strong intoxicating fermented wine having become drunk slept naked in his tent; Genesis 9:20-21 (KJV, Bible). The parents and peer play a significant role to influence alcohol drinking to their children and even grand-children. The sin of Noah and his drunkenness was spiritually passed to Lot in Genesis 19:30-38 (KJV, Bible) and Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain and his two daughters with him. And the firstborn said unto the younger our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth come let us make our father drink wine and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

And they made their father drink wine that night and the first went in and lay with her father and perceived neither when she lay down nor when she arose. And it came to pass on the morrow that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesterday night with my father, let us make him drink wine this night also and go in him this night also. And go thou in and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. And they made their father drink wine that night also and the younger arose and lay with him; and he perceived neither when she lay down nor when she arose. Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. And the firstborn bare a son and called his name Moab the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day and the younger she also bare a son, and called his name Ben-ammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon this day. The alcohol-sex linkage is also shown in other scriptures (Habbakuk 2:15). Alcohol use lead to changing the spiritual life of an individual even if those individuals have been standing on a firm doctrine of Christ and fear of God, Lot is a good example (Genesis 19: 16-26). The negative effects of alcohol to man starts in the womb. The child has to be protected from alcohol intoxication from the womb. **“Before I formed thee in**

the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations” (Jeremiah 1: 5).

Alcohol use during pregnancy has negative effect on the growth of the child in the womb (Gray and Henderson, 2006; Walker *et al.*, 2011; Matunga Mpelo *et al.*; 2018). David in the Psalm 51:5 wrote: “Behold, I was shaped in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. The habit of drinking strong heavy drinks could be the possible sin intended by David. Because according to the Law of Moses, fornication was punishable by death (John 8:4-5), but it appears that drunkenness was not regarded as a capital punishment sin. This is supported by the Bible in 1 Samwel 1: 14-15 **“And Eli said unto her how long wilt thou be drunken? Put away they wine form thee. And Hannah answered and said No, my lord; I am a woman of a sorrowful sprit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink but have poured out my soul before the Lord”**. God knows the negative effects of alcohol to the development of a child in the womb and He gave specific instruction to parents to shun away from the use of fermented wine and strong drinks. God holiness and faithfulness have protected his servants and separated them from alcoholic contaminations form the wombs. God instructed the wife of Manoah, Samson’s mother, the judge and deliverer of Israel to shun away from drinking wine and heavy drinks. In Judges 13:1-4 **“And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hands of the Philistines forty years. And there was a certain man of Zorah of the family of the Danites whose name was Manoah and his wife was barren and bare not. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman and said unto her, behold now thou art barren and bearest not but thou shalt conceive and bear a son. Now therefore beware I pray thee and drink not wine nor strong drink and eat not any unclean thing: For lo, thou shalt conceive and bear a son: and no razor shall come on his**

head for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines". God also separated John the Baptist to be the forerunner of the LORD Jesus and separated him from contamination of wine and strong drinks to be filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb of Elisabeth who was the daughter of Aaron (the first high priest in Israel); in Luke 1:13-16 **"But the angel said unto him, fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son and thou shalt call his name John and thou shalt have joy and gladness and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the LORD and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the LORD their God"**. It appears that protection of the child in the womb against alcohol contamination has a positive influence on the physical but also on the spiritual growth of the child. This child John the Baptist who was protected from wine and strong drinks from the womb of his mother was to become the great servant of God. In Luke 1:76-77 **"And thou child shalt be called the prophet of the highest for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways. To give knowledge of salvation unto his peoples by the remission of their sins"**. John the Baptist was protected from wine and strong drinks to live the holy life in the wilderness preaching the Gospel of repentance to Israel. In Mathew 3:1-4 we read; **"In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea. And saying repent ye: for this is that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying the voice of one crying in the Lord make his paths straight. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair and a leathern girdle about his loins and his meat was locust and wild honey. Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea and the entire region round about Jordan and were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins"**. The

effective Ministry in the Gospel belongs to those who shun away from drinking wine and strong drinks. Those are the servants of Christ who do not grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30) and subsequently quenching the Spirit of the LORD (1Thessalonians 5:19). Abstinence from alcohol and intoxicating strong drinks is the life-style of preserving the holiness of the LORD. In Leviticus 19:2; God said to Moses; **“Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your GOD am holy”**. Research studies show that prevalence of heavy episodic drinking among adults was a problem causing hardships violence in marriages (Anne-marie *et al*; 2015: Anne Kendagor *et al*; 2018). High prevalence of episodic alcoholic drinking results into separation (Anne-Marrie *et al*; 2015). In Hebrews 13:4, we read, **“Marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge”**. Regular alcoholic consumption is the catalyst to promoting the sin of fornication Tanzania (Kabamanya *et al*; 2014): heavy episodic drinking and its associated sins make many to dishonor God. Alcohol consumption among men stimulates committed violences to wives and children (Anne Kendagor *et al*; 2018). But, 1 Peter 3: 7 Exhorts; **“Likewise ye husbands dwell with them according to knowledge giving honour unto the wife as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered”**. Therefore a drunkard husband cannot not honor his wife and God, according to the scriptures in Hebrew 13:4 and 1 Peter 3:7. On the other side there are also drunkard women who cause troubles to their husbands. In 1 Peter 3:1 -5 **“Likewise ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, that, if any obey not the word they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair and of wearing of gold or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden**

man of the heart in that which is not corruptible even the ornament of a meek and quite spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price for after this manner in the old time the holy women also who trusted in God, adorned themselves being in subjection unto their own husbands”.

A drunkard woman cannot not honor her marriage, husband and God. She is rebellious and prone to God’s judgment. Alcohol consumption cannot be part of the holy life demanded by God from both men and women. Paul exhorts the believers in Titus 2:1-6 **“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith in charity in patience. The aged women likewise that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things. That they may teach the young women to be sober to lover their husbands to love their children, to be discreet, chaste keepers at home good, obedient to their own husbands that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded”.** The instructions of Paul to Titus were to teach the church members in Cyprus to shun away from being wine bibbers. Drunkards cannot be sober minded nor cannot be good wives keeping their homes and taking care of their children. Heavy Episodic Drinking of strong alcoholic drinks has destroyed marriages in Tanzania and now the country is under the socio- burden of the so called street children, homeless some children sleeping in boxes and abandoned vehicles and in bus stands throughout the country. In Paul points to the fact that social vices are the product of rebellion against God and His Word. Romans 1:21-24; **“Because that, when they know God they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful, but became vain in their imaginations and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man**

and to birds and fourfooted beasts and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts to dishonor their own bodies between themselves". In Romans 1: 26-27; **"For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men leaving the natural use of the woman burned in their lust one of the woman burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly and adults was a key foundational problem receiving in themselves that recommence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient"**. This is the reason why many youth, men and women are victims the sin of sodomites in Tanzania. This sin is a product of imported culture, but the victims are heavy episodic drinkers of strong liquors.

Because of heavy episodic drinking of strong drinks the name of the LORD Jesus is being blasphemed by nominal Christians among pagans and Moslems in the city of Mwanza, quite a number of youth both boys and girls are involved in drug abuse, and sodomization in Mwanza City. There is high increase of secretly conducted sin of sodomization between men , research observation by special group on HIV/AIDS reported of incidences of youth especially boys laying with men and woman, against the natural use. But all these sins are committed under the influence of alcohol consumption. Also, alcohol consumption is the cause of unwanted pregnancies and reports of thrown up newly born babies is being reported throughout the country by different media in Tanzania. The world has been ruined by man, through information technology mismanagement and increased wickedness. The heart of Jesus must be breaking as he watches the children of our generation destroying their bodies with

alcohol and drugs and killing the next generations before his return. We need to move away from being nominal Christians. The heart of Jesus Christ is once again bleeding fresh blood as He watches His creation turning against Him and His Word while continuing to profess to be Christians.

In Hebrews 6:4-8, the Scriptures says, **“For it is impossible for those who once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost and the power of the world to come if they shall fall away to renew them again unto repentance, seeing they crucify to themselves the son of God a fresh and put him to an open shame for the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed receiveth blessing from God. But that which beareth thorns and briars is rejected and is nigh unto cursing, whose end is to be burned”**.

Drug use is increasing in Tanzania, especially among the youth. The war against drugs is being lost. As wickedness increases in intensity the church influence on Christians and their lives is becoming weaker. The lukewarm church is growing in form and in number, false apostolic and prophetic ministries and churches, are growing as the fire in the dry forest, but this the fulfillment of the Word of the LORD Jesus in Mathew 24:11,24. The dead Church the spiritual Babylon (Rev. 18:1-24) has been fortified herself preaching, doctrines and the heresies which include the acceptance of alcohol and intoxicating drinks among the congregation as normal life—style.

The once true Pentecostal churches have lost the followers to false apostles and teachers who advocate the Gospel of prosperity, richness but not holiness. The scriptures in 2 Peters 2:1-3; account the picture of the current spiritual crisis in Tanzania. **“But there were false prophets also among the people even as there shall be false teachers among you who privily shall bring in damnable heresies even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon**

themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of and through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not and their damnation slumbereth not". Drinking alcohol promotes sexualism acts in 2 Peter 2:14 **"Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot lease form sin, beguiling unstable soul and heart they have exercised with covetous practices, cursed children"**. The world is growing from wickedness to wickedness, so is our country, Tanzania; indeed even families are doing the same at grass root level. What is very disturbing is for the church as the body of Christ to grow from wickedness to wickedness. Woe unto us for the judgment of God is at the door. The scriptures, 1 Peter 4:7 **"But the end of all things is at hand be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer"**. We are living in the end times, as the Word admonishes us from the Lord Himself in the Olivet discourse (Mathew 24: 7; KJV). The alcohol- sex linkage has increased and has serious implications' for the health of population due HIV/AIDS infection at present AIDS is the leading cause of death in sub- Saharan Africa and the fourth- biggest killer globally (WHO,2005); young people use alcohol before they engage in sex, a risk-taking behavior occurs, notably unsafe sex. The use of alcohol is recognized as a risk factor in the transmission of HIV other sexually transmitted infections (WHO, 2005). In Leviticus 19: 1, 2 **"And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, speak unto all the congregations of the children of Israel and say unto them ye shall be holy for I the LORD God am holy"**. Alcohol and its sex linkage were forewarned by God. In Leviticus 19:29, God said; **"Do not prostitute they daughter to cause her to be a whole lest the land fall to whoredom, and the land become full of wickedness"**. Thus allowing alcoholism would lead into sexual acts all which are forbidden by God. A cross examination of the laws of God instituted in Leviticus. 19, show that

Lev.19:3,5,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,20,28,29,30,31,32, 33,35 and 36 all could be broken directly or indirectly under the influence of alcohol intoxication. The use of alcohol has influenced the negative behavior and ethics of youth in Tanzania; currently there is no more respect of authority, elders among the youth. The youth have been poisoned by high intake of cheap alcoholic liquors available throughout the country. To the large extent most youth have abandoned the church; there are remnants of youth in the church today. In Leviticus 19:32; God instructed the respect of elders; **“Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD”**. The youth can only be submissive to elders if and only if they obey the Word of God. In I Peter 5:5, **“Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder, Yea all of you be subject one to another and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud and giveth grace to the humble”**. The scripture in show the victory of the youth against the devil; 1 John 2:13b **“I write unto you young men because ye have overcome the wicked one”**. Alcohol consumption among the youth is an instrument of Satan to enslave the youth and remain in bondage.

According to WHO, 2005, UNAIDS report the Alcohol-sex linkage has serious implications for the health of population due to link with HIV infection. The increased AIDS have resulted in the death of parents, leaving behind many orphans in countries like Kenya, South Africa and Zambia (WHO,2005) alcohol consumption and its related sex- linked diseases is the cause of increasing number of widows and orphans in our communities. In Jeremiah49:11 God said, **“Leave they fatherless children, I will preserve them alive and let they widows trust in me”** . The fact is man through the self-suicide caused by alcohol intoxication is producing widows and orphans against the will of God. And even the widows and orphans are not taken care of by the church. The world, indeed the countries of sub-Saharan Africa and Tanzania are burdened

with the problem of taking care of widows and orphans. And it appears the war is being lost as most children are born infected with HIV/ AIDS and the government have no enough resources to take care of the sick population.

It is estimated that about 430,000 children infected by HIV annually in Tanzania, Chebet *et al*; 2014. Some of these HIV infected children are victims of alcohol-sex related sins. Heavy Episodic drinking (HED) is strongly associated with divorcement among married couples (Anne-Marie *et al*, 2015). Research results show that, divorced women are at risk to become pregnant and give birth to under-weight child, especially when they are involved in HED (Mushi and Charles, 2014; Chebet *et al*; 2014). But divorced men were at lower risk of HIV infection because it is easier for them to take a new single partner and get married. But divorced women were unlikely to be remarried soon after divorcement to a safe HIV free man (Chibet *et al*; 2014). The alcohol- sex relation (WHO, 2005), further show that divorced women are victims of domestic violence which involves physical, sexual psychological and emotional threats inflicted on a them (Said, 2014). The war against violence to women should be the CROSS and the Blood of the LORD Jesus, man-made methods will avail to nothing fruitful. According to Leshabani *et al*; 2014, alcohol intake and drunkenness were reported to stimulate sexual slavelly to the extent that women who were victims of crime considered those abuses as normal life styles (Abeid, 2014). It is no wonder that HIV infection was higher among women than men (Semakafu and Purvis (2014); WHO, 2005).

God is the ruler of the church and Jesus is the head of the church while the church is the body of Christ. Ephesians 1:22-23. **“And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church which is his body. The fullness of him that filleth all in all, Jesus the son of the living God”** (Mathew 3:17) told Peter the son of Jonas **“Blessed are**

you Simon son of Jonah for this was not revealed to you by man but my father in heaven and tell you that you ate Peter and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hades will not overcome it". (Mathew 16:15-18). The rock is Christ Himself as Paul wrote **"that rock was Christ"** (1 Corinthians 10:4). The only true church is made of individuals who are born again (John 3:2); who have accepted Christ as their Great God and savior (Titus 2:13).

The Spiritual state of the seven churches in the Bible

Jesus gave seven letters to seven churches in Asia Minor, through the angel and the apostle John (Rev. 1:19-20). The seven churches that received letters are Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea. The message of the LORD Jesus to the seven churches is for us today, because, Hebrews 1:8 says, **"Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever"**. The letter to the church of Ephesus "I know your deeds your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not and found them false. You have persevered and endured hardships for my name and have not grown weary (Revelation, 2:2, 3). The church at Ephesus was the apostolical church.

The Ephesian church perseveres through hard testing times and affliction. These were people who knew the truth and could not turn against the doctrine they recovered from Paul, Timothy and the apostle John. Church discipline was the order of the day in the church; if someone falsely claimed to be an apostle, he was called a liar. Today there are church ministers who claim to be apostles. The Ephesians would not have joined them; they were careful to examine ministers to see if they were filled with truth. The infiltration of the sin of alcoholism could not have entered

the Ephesian church. However, inside the hearts of Ephesians love was growing cold, the people were involved in their “good work” out of a sense of duty.

The Smyrna Church, this was the tortured church (Rev. 2:8-10). The church was persecuted because they wouldn't worship Caesar and burn incense in the temple dedicated to his lordship. The church at Smyrna was torn by pressure of poverty and persecution. Jesus told the believers in Smyrna to be faithful even to the point of death. This church couldn't have allowed the sin of alcoholism and sexualism to be among the congregation.

Jesus said” **you will suffer persecution for ten days**” (Revelation 2:10). The Lord wanted to prepare the church to be ready to suffer in temporal world lusts for the blessing of eternity. The pastor of the church in Smyrna was a student and disciple of John named Polycarp. Polycarp's ministry ended in A.D.150 when under persecutions he was burned alive on fire at the age of eighty-six years (Jeremiah, D) the people in the Smyrna church according to their faith could not have to related the defilement of their church with alcoholism.

The Pergamum church (Rev.2:12-15): this is considered to be the inner city church Pergamum was a cultural center, famous for its library, the city attracted the finest minds in the academic world but Jesus Christ wrote to Christians who were despised in keeping their faith amidst the critics of higher learning. He called Pergamum “satanic city” the city was deeply involved in the worship of the god of healing, and the temples of Asclepius were like the hospitals. The believers in that city may have been like Christians today who sit in their homes to scoff at Christians who are born again. The believers are recommended for remaining firm without renounce of their faith (Rev.2:2) even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was slain among you where satan dwelleth (Antipas was slowly roasted to death in a bronze kettle) (Jeremiah, D) .

But Christ said, Never the less, I have a few things against you (Rev.2:14) they had become compromisers. Satan did not come as a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8) he came by the back door and led them astray to believe false doctrine some member of the Pergamum congregation followed the doctrines of Balaam, and others to the Nicolaitans (Rev. 2:14,15). Balaam was a false prophet who was used by Barak king of Moab to try to curse Israel by offerings to his gods but his plan was foiled by God. The curse was turned into the blessing. In the end after his failure, he showed Barack how he could corrupt Israel by having sex with adulterous Moabite women the second plan succeeded (Numbers 22:25). In the Pergamum Church sin was tolerated as some of the churches today tolerate alcoholism. Alcoholism is the disease from the heart of man (Jeremiah.17:9). The compromising Christians in the church in Pergamum had what we experience to day of high episodic drinking alcohol in the congregation which is tolerated in many denominations like the Roman Catholic church, the Lutheran church, Anglican church, to our shame alcohol drinking is being tolerated in the Pentecostal churches as they slowly turn into a lukewarm spiritual state.

The Thyatira Church was a sub-urban church. The church at Thyatira was characterized by its growing love: the people worked hard faithfully and patiently. However, beneath the surface vitality there was dirt acts among the believers **“I know your deeds your love and faith your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first (Revelation 2:19) notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jebebel, which calleth herself a prophetess to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.**The strong alcohol-sex relation ship suggest alcoholism to be in Tyatira.

Thyatira tolerated a satanic woman in her midst and refuses to put her away. The Christians in Thyatira had either a poor conscience or very weak courage, their refusal to rebuke their Jezebel likely was connected with the weakness of their pastor this woman in the church might have been supporting the financial programs of the church that the entire congregation ended into worshipping her instead of Christ. This is a common trap for many pastors to rebuke alcoholism.

Literal punishment of sickness and death were to be inflicted upon the spiritual children of Jezebel (Rev. 2:22); alcoholism also inflicts sicknesses and deaths among the victims. The church of Sardi was not praised for anything by the Lord because the hearts of Sardians were cold.

And unto the angel of the church in Sardi; write : **These things saith He that hath the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: I know they works that those hast a name that thou livest and are dead.. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die for I have not found they works perfect before God** (Rev. 3: 1-2). The church has acquired a reputation for lax moral standards. The Sardi church died because it was not sensitive to its own spiritual condition, it was confident that God was there because the building was magnificent and believers well dressed. They were Christians Paul described to his disciple Timothy **“having a form of godliness but denying its power”** (2 Timothy 3:5). These are the kind of churches where believers boast of an expensive organ good music and fine congregational singing. In this kind of dead church alcohol consumption, and drunkenness are part and parcel of all Christian ceremonies; weddings, children baptism, communion and indeed every single ceremony has to be accompanied with drinking strong alcoholic liquors. The Holy Ghost had left the church that is why it is described as dead (Rom.8:9).

The Philadelphia like Smyrna had no word of condemnation. This church had right doctrine and right living going hand in hand where doctrine is present, without love it is legalism, where love is present without doctrine, it is humanism. God promised to open doors for this loving church to give it an opportunity to reach out to a lost world. The Philadelphian church was commended because it had “little” strength. God had said My grace is sufficient for you for power is perfected in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9); for it is God which worketh in you both to will and do of his good pleasure (Philipines 2:13). Since you have kept my command to endure patiently I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the world (Revelation 3:10). The Lord has a special plan that will keep the faithful of Philadelphia church from the world- wide tribulation which is to come. This church was holy and committed to the faith and holiness. The members of this church could not have tolerated alcoholism and the associated sins. Praise God that God through Christ will open a door and a fear of His WORD to be like the Philadelphians as remnants in this end time.

The church of Laodicea is the lukewarm church which will be in existence when Christ returns. The majority of churches today have a lukewarm spirit (Rev. 3:14-22). The members were rich in material goods but spiritually poor. The LORD had nothing positive to say about this church in fact the church made Christ sick. The preaching in the church was compromising the pastor likely didn't want to upset his congregation. The Lord said “**I am about to spit you out of my mouth**” (Rev. 3:16). The Christianity was anemic sick with an-accruable disease in the hearts of people. The members in the Laodicean church were proud, conceited; you say, “**I am rich, I have acquired wealth and do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked**”(Rev.3:17).The members of the church in Laodicea were canal minded, likely heavy episodic drinking was common and was tolerated because the people were rich.

The challenge of Alcohol consumption to church growth and vitality

The church is a spiritual body of Christ wherever located (Eph 1:23, “the **church which is his body**”). The people brought into spiritual relation with him through the new birth (John 3:2; Acts 2:38-41). A series of terms being employed which is almost inexhaustible the saints (1 Cor. 1:2), the elect (2 Tim 2:10). Disciples (Act 11:26), servants or slaves (1 Pet. 2:16), kingdom (Col. 1:13), priesthood (1 Pet 2-9, Rev 1:6; 5:10), a Holy city (Heb12; Rev.21-22). The pentecostal church which follow the doctrine of the apostles in Acts 2, has the true image of the church of Christ because the church is instructed by the Holy Ghost Paul writes in Romans 8:9 “**But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ is none of his**”. With this in mind, I have to discuss the challenges that face women are believers married to alcoholic husbands. Those women are highly humiliated, persecuted and often are prohibited to attend church services and abandon their leadership positions in the church from the pressure of their husbands. Some women are beaten, and abused because of their faith in Christ Jesus. There are incidences whereby these women are forced to take part in worship of family spirits under the pressure of pagan husbands. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 7:13 “**And the woman which hath a husband that beliveth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him**”. But the believing wives were to be free to practice their faith in Christ not otherwise. The alcoholic husbands abuse the faith of their wives being supported by local traditional, ethics and life styles. The life style of alcoholics is the life of the flesh, the restrict the freedom of their wives, to serve the LORD , seldom they assign home activities during the time of going to the church, those women who persist to go to church mighty be beaten and physically abused even in public. The Laws in Tanzania are mostly silent to protect women with regard to faith. The women cannot challenge

her husband in the court of the law for her right to exercise her faith without breaking the marriage. For this cause many women have compromised their Christian faith for the sake of maintaining marriage and to sustain social security. I have an experience of a woman who was beaten and run naked to her pastor because the chronic alcohol bibber did not respect the wife nor the pastor. In general the life style of most alcoholics is the life of fresh, alcohol consumption being also the fruit of the fresh (Galatians 5:22-23). Those women who cannot stand firm to challenge their husbands and stand with Christ are normally defenseless dependent on their husbands for upkeep; poverty, lack of education and protection all which expose them to men's dominance of women their faith. Incidencies of women and girls taken by force from the church with shameful beatings or abuses are common. Paul writes in Ephesians 6:11 **“Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”**. However, the enemies of the church are not only men wine bibbers but also women alcoholics. There are experiences of alcoholic women prohibiting their children to join the believing father into the church, also there are cases when marriages have been broken unilaterally by the wife because the husband had decided to stand firm on the ROCK the Lord Jesus Christ. The apostle Peter writes; 1 Peter 3:1 **“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives”**. The word of God is exhorting women who live with drunkard husbands to be humble and to focus their eyes to the Lord Jesus Christ to defend their cause. A drunkard husband is a challenge to his wife so is the drunkard wife to the husband. Likewise innocent men who live with drunkard women should do the same. In Hebrew 12:2 the exhortation says; **“Looking unto Jesus Christ the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right**

hand of the throne of God”. The growth of the Pentecoste Church in socio-economic settings where alcohol consumption is considered part of Christian faith is quite challenging, and has been of slow pace. In areas like Bukoba and Muleba districts people dislike the Pentecost Church among other things because the church does not embrace free alcohol drinking.

Alcoholism is dispersed through human agents

The doctrines of demons are dispersed through human agents “speaking lies in hypocrisy (1Tim:4:2). The source of demons is supernatural, but the means of seduction is natural occurring on the human level. Every ceremony in some churches is accompanied by alcohol consumption by youth, elders and often to children. When I was young in 1961; my father was a an invited guest of honor in our village, at the ceremony of consecrating the Roman Catholic Priest; Reverend Father Caloly; during that ceremony the dignitaries including my father were not served with local banana beer, “Orubisi” but by the commercial “**tusker beer**”; the second similar incident, i saw at the consecration of Reverend Martin Ngambeki in the same village in 1966; all village honored men were served with commercial beers but the local normal people were drinking the local banana brew “Orubisi” . How then the godly ceremony be crowned with alcohol drinking? Therefore, the Roman Catholic Church has no fear of God with regard to drinking alcoholic liquors. Thank God that i am saved from that bondage of alcohol consumption and the seducing spirits of false religious systems. We are created not to be contaminated with alcohol. In Jeremiah 1:5 “**before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet into nations**”. I pray to God, that any one, who will access and read this thesis, should be touched by the Holy Spirit and shun away from drinking blood.

Apostates ignore basic facts about creation God created man and women as perfect as himself In Gen:1:27 “ **So God created man in his own image in the image of god created him; male and female created he them**”. In Gen. 1:31 “**And God saw everything that very thing that he had made and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day**”. God created man and women for his glory; with sound power to judge, plan and execute. Alcohol drinking distorts the sound working of the brain it cannot be godly. God created marriage when he provided a wife to Adam. Both Paul and Peter give the importance of a good marriage relationship (1 Cor. 7:1-5; Eph 5:22-33; 1 Pet 3:7). The marriage God created is the marriage of good ethics and moral standards under the power of God’s word, and the law of Love. Indeed the scripture in Hebrews 13:4 exhorts; “**Marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled. But whore mongers and adulterers God will judge**”. To honor marriage is to abstain from all acts, which will destroy the bond of love and kill moral ethics of partners. Alcohol consumption which is a demonic induced act has destroyed many marriages, in the history of man, and it will continue to do so because the church has lost the war against alcoholism in these latter times. Many women live as widows, children as orphans, men live as widower because of alcoholism

STRATEGIES FOR SPRITUAL WARFARE AGAINST ALCOHOLISM IN THE CHURCH

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities against powers, against the rulers of the darkness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12)

Alcoholism like any other evil is motivated by evil spiritual beings, hostile to God and to humanity. In the Greek culture people believed in the existence of spiritual beings some what less powerful from their gods, but capable of doing mischief. The Greek word for such being is

Daimonion. In Africa and indeed in Tanzania people are strongly influenced by the demonic spirits, according to Wilbur O' Donavan Jr. (1995). The worship of ancestral spirits is common and this worship is associated with alcohol drinking as part of the ceremonial rituals. I have met people worshipping graves to be followed by eating foods and abundant alcohol drinking in different Sukuma settings in Northern western Tanzania. In Kagera region when I was young back 1960s, I used to see the ancestral spirits' being worshiped under special tree groves, that was followed by the offering of the local banana brew "Orubisi"

Demons directly impact the lives of men who open doors for them in practicing activities which originate from them. Worshipping of gods is one of the doors used by demons to enter into men's lives and induce them to drink alcoholic liquors.

In Deuteronomy 32:17; God says;

"They sacrificed into devils, not to God: to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your father feared not".

The demons become a snare to those worshipping them: they cause awesome mischief to men. It is documented that drinking alcohol is the cause of more than 200 different diseases in men; thus the demons which motivate people to drink alcohol, work closely with those which inflict diseases in men.

Psalms 106:36-37; **"And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils the evil spirit lie behind occult practices such as spiritism"**, which the Bible condemns (Deut.18:9-12; I Sam. 28:13; Isa. 8:19).

The occult practices are in most cases accompanied with alcohol drinking rituals. Those rituals are quite common in the pagan life styles.

In Isaiah 8:19; we read; **“And when they shall say unto you, seek, unto them that have families spirit and unto wizards that peep and that mutters: should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead”**? The worship of gods is associated with alcoholism in many parts of Africa. There a close relation of worship of gods and alcoholism. In Daniel 1: 5, 8; the scriptures show how the evil spirit inside king Nebuchadnezzar tried to enslave the Hebrew youth by offering them to drink wine offered to his gods. But those youths were clever enough to see the spiritual trap.

“And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king’s meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end there of they might stand before the king. But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with portions of the King’s meat, nor with wine which he drank. There fore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself”.

The main issue here is not the meat and wine, but Daniel and his friends knew that the meat and wine were also offered to the Babylonian gods, and so they distanced themselves from drinking and eating. The apostle, Paul talks also of the defilement which comes from eating things offered to idols in First Corinthians chapter 8, to sum up in 1 Corinthians 10:7; Paul writes; **“Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge; for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled”** the defiled conscience cannot think and judge in righteousness because it is demon influenced.

Demons influence alcoholics

The Gospels give us the clearest portrait of demonic beings in showing their confrontations with the LORD Jesus. Demons function as living beings with the ability to speak, hear, think, feel and act they too have the ability to seduce and entice the mind of a person towards alcoholism. The

demons in the Bible are portrayed as being hostile to human beings they oppress men and women cause disease (Mt 4:24: 12:22:14:22, Lk.4:35) and madness (Mk 5:2-20; Lk.8:27-39). Therefore the demons are behind the influence of motivating people to drink alcohol and turn drunkards. The epistles also refer to spiritual powers that war against God and His people (Eph 6:12). The influence of evil spirits is different from the impersonal evil influences.

Paul and other writes of the New Testament affirm the reality of demons (1 Cor 10:20-21; James 2:19). Paul and John both indicate the false teaching with are introduced unto Christianity by demons (I Tim. 4:1; 1 John 4:1-3). The demons should are not to control the believers who are filled with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit gives them the spiritual resilience to overcome the demonic influences which control alcoholism. The scripture show; **“have overcome them, because the one who si in you is greater than the one who is you is world”** 1 John 4:4). The fight against alcoholism should be in the spiritual realm not otherwise.

Alcoholism in current time

Seducing coveys the idea of wandering and is applied to demons that lead people to wonder in the world of alcoholism. Alcoholism is promoted in media platforms decorated with multiple satanic colours. The promotion of alcohol brands is accompanied by expensive music, well known and celebrated men and women artists there is much investments to attract people to a new alcohol brand, prizes of money often are commercially promoted to attractive prizes like houses and modern cars. Alcoholic brands are promoted by affluent well known people. All of these seducing spirits attract more people and especially the youth to constantly drink alcohols in antisipation to win very luxurious prizes which could transform ones life individualy. The Holy Ghost guides us unto the truth (John 16:13), but demons lead people into sin and lead to death. They are the principlalties and powers that the pastors must wrestle with (Eph. 6:11-12).

The influence of demons is dispensed through human agent **“speaking lies in hypocrisy”** (I Tim. 4:2). Most of people serve God and live a Christian life in hypocrisy; to this group of people include those who claim that the LORD Jesus is their savior and yet engage in drinking intoxicating drinks claiming that the LORD Jesus made fermented intoxicating wine from water, but that wine was not an intoxicating one. God warned the priests not drink any intoxicating drink since the Law of Moses, for the LORD Jesus to drink an intoxicating drink was to break the Law of Moses. But he came to fulfill the Law not to break it. Jesus observed the Law of Moses *“from aleph to tau”*. Paul writes to the Galatians 4:4 **“But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his son, made of woman, made under the Law”**. Therefore the Word fulfilled the Law as written of Him by Moses in the Pentateuch. The false doctrines that does not agree that the blessed and Holy Son of God never drank intoxicated fermented drink is to nullify the Holiness of Christ. Apostates teach false standards of spirituality: **“drink alcohol; but don’t harm a person.”**

Some false teachers avoid, teaching on the sin of alcoholism, because already they have perverted the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit into church rituals. And this is the death of the church, these are like the dead bones that, that need to hear the Word of truth and be resurrected from alcoholism into the life of God (Ezekiel 37). The church has to be resurrected from the grave of alcoholism. Paul writes, Second Corinthians 3:17; **“Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty”**. The graves of alcoholism will open through the intervention of the Holy Spirit of God. False teachers have chased the Holy Spirit away from the church, but they talk of the Holy Spirit in hypocrisy both in church and in their lives. If the Gospel of the New birth in Water and Spirit is not preached, it is like mocking God and what is most Christian denominations are doing. The burden of alcohol in the church will be driven away from the

church if and only if the Spirit of God will be in operation in the church. In Isaiah 10:27; we read; “**And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off they shoulder and his yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing**”. The invitation of the LORD Jesus in Matthew 11:28; is only sure and possible way to turn from alcoholism under the comfort of the Holy Spirit and repentance (Matthew 4:1, Acts 4:8; Acts 13:9)

The church

The word church is an English word derived from Greek: (kuriake) the Lord’s assembly. The English word “church” was used in the New Testament (113 times) for the Greek, (ekklesia) the proper meaning of which is “congregation or assembly”. The word ekklesia is derived from the verb ek-kaleo (I call out) but the church is not a summoned assembly. The general meaning is that of an assembly which as in the New Testament might be a chance meeting (even a mob, Acts 19:41) or a city assembly the body politic of the city (Acts 19:39)

(i) In the Gospels

The word ekklesia occurs only twice in the Gospels, both in Matthew: once after Peter’s confession, “**upon this rock I will build my church**” (Matthew 16:18; 18:17). Ecclesia had been used in the Septuagint to translate the Hebrew (qahal), the assembly of Israel (Deut. 4:10; 2 Chr. 30: 13). Jesus choosing the twelve disciples was the establishment of a people to bear his name. However in the gospels the more frequent designation is the term “**kingdom of God**”, or “**Heaven**”. It is not that ekklesia and “kingdom” is synonymous. “Kingdom” (Basileia) means “*the act of ruling*”. “*The sovereignty*” of the king. According to Jesus this rule is to be exercised in this world in a people or “little flock” to whom he would “*give the kingdom*” (Luke 12:32)

(ii) In Acts and Epistles

The proper viewpoint for the religious meaning of *ekklesia* in acts and the epistles is that of a constituted assembly or religious community. Compare the uses to designate a local group such as the church of Thessalonians in God our Father (2 Thessalonians 1:1) where the phrase “*in God*” is a modifier to describe the kind of assembly in question. These single communities were described as meeting in a house (Philemon 2; Rom. 16:5; Col. 4: 15), in a city (1 Cor. 1:2) and generally as “ *churches*” (i.e, churches of Christ, Rom., 16:16) the *ekklesia* also may refer to the occasion of the community’s gathering for worship (1 Cor. 11: 18; Col.4: 16). But the term is also used in a more universal sense as Christ used it in Matthew 16: 18. Here the church is seen as the spiritual body of Christ wherever located (Eph. 1:23). The church is a body of Christ these are the people brought into spiritual relation with him make up a unit. These are the one to stand firm against alcoholism.

One worldwide fellowship or community which is realized in a local situation when a community exists. As the body Christ the church has a structure. For a body to function it has to have structure. The skeleton gives vertebrates animals their structure like wise there are certain skeletal truths that a church must be committed to if it is to have a sound structure these doctrines are unalterable and nonnegotiable, they cannot be compromised in any way .

The skeleton of the church includes a high view of God an institution established for the glory of God (Prov. 9:10); to the skeleton of the church is added the absolute authority of scripture (Matt. 4:4); the sound doctrine (1 Tim. 4:6; cf 1 Tim. 1:3, 10; 4:13, 16); to the skeleton of the church is personal holiness as an essential component of Christian life (2 Cor. 7:1); the church should enforce that standard of purity among the members (Matthew 18:15-17). Also a church must understand that Christ is the head of the church (Eph. 1:22; 4:15) and that He mediates His

rule in the church through godly elders (1 Thess. 5:13-14; Heb. 13:7, 17 (MacAthur, Jr., 1991) skeleton of the church include personal holiness as an essential component of life style (2 Cor.7:1); the church should enforce that standard of purity among the members (Matthew 18:15-17). One final component of the skeletal structure of a church is spiritual authority. A church must understand that Christ is the head of the church (Eph. 1.22, 4:15) and that he mediates his rule in the church through godly elders(1Thess 5:13-14; Heb. 13: 7, 17) (Mac Athur, Jr.1991).

The church as the body of Christ has the internal systems like any living body, the church cannot exist as a skeleton alone. A skeleton provides a frame work but it isn't a live a physical body has organs and fluids that keep it alive and functioning. So a church must have internal systems certain spiritual attitudes in the life of the congregation. The life of the church comes form those systems. The spiritual altitudes are the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal.5:22-23). The internal systems of the church include spiritual attitudes such as "Obedience" (I Sam. 15:22). Jesus says; in Luke 6: 46, "**why call ye me Lord, Lord and do not the things which I say**"? If Jesus is the Lord and the head of the church then the church should do what the scriptures directs her to do.

The second component of the internal system is humility, a true chirstian should have humility and not prideful. Pride is a cause of rebellion to God's Word. Love always does something; the Love of God causes the church to fear the Word.

Unity is another important internal system; Jesus prayed that all Christians would be one, just as he and the father are one so that the world knows he was sent by the father. He prayed that we would be united (John 17:21). The united church will stand firm in prayer against alcoholism. The apostle Paul told the Ephesians to endeavor to keep the unity of the sprit in bond of peace 9 (Eph. 4:3). Unity is an important part of church life for waging the spiritual war. Peace in the church is only possible in the church free of drunkards. Jesus said, "**peace I leave with you, my**

peace I give unto you not you". Self-discipline is also an element in the internal system of the church. Christians should conform to God's divine standard which is attained through self-discipline in life using the WORD as the standard in life.

The disciplined person understands the law of God and doesn't do anything outside the bounds of that standard. Paul talks about self discipline in first Corinthians 9:24-27, "know ye not that they who run in a race run all but one received the price? So run that ye may obtain' believers in the church have been called to race (Gal.5:7; Phil. 2:16; Heb.12: 1-2)

Undisciplined alcoholic Christians grieve the heart of the Lord Jesus in Philipppians 4:8; Paul says" **whatever things are true whatever things are pure whatever thing are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue and if there be any praise think on these things**":

Self-discipline is related to the mind, Proverbs 23:7 says; "As **(a man) thinketh in his heart so is he**". A pure, self-disciplined life comes form being saturated with the Word of God (Psalm.119: 105). Further the Psalmist said, "**The Word have I hidden in mine heart that I might not sin against thee**" (Psalm 119:11); Colossians 3:16 says to "let **the word of Christ dwell in you richly**". God's Word is the source of discipline so the believer must be committed to know it and do it (James 1:22). People who are pre occupied with alcoholism cannot be committed to God's work, fear or call.

Accountability is an essential component of the internal organs of the church. Belivers should be accountable to one another in Matthew 7:3 Jesus says' "**why beholdest thou the more that is in try brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye**". In other words, why are you concerned about the little problem in your borther's life than the bigger problem in your own life?"

The principle is this we have a responsibility to point out one another's sin but before we can do that we must deal with our own sin (Matthew 7:5). Accountability among the people of a church is an important thing. All church members should be accountable to each other, wage a war against alcoholism. Confrontation is necessary to help restore a sinning brother. Sometimes a Christians who is involved in alcoholism will require the rebuke of another Christian to pull him out of that sin. Paul said he struggled with the flesh. That which I do I understand not; for what I would that do I not but what I would that do I not for what I hate that I do (Rom. 7: 15). Accountability involves “**to exhort one another**” (Heb. 10:24-25). Pray for one another (James 5:16); love one another (Gal. 5:13; Eph.4:2; 1 Peter 1:22); teach one another(Col.3:16) ;edify one another (Rom.14:19; 1 Thess.5: 11) and admonish one another (Rom 15:14; Col.3:16). All of those spiritual instruments acting together contribute at waging the spiritual war against alcoholism in the church.

The Greek: understanding of man

One of the first influential thinkers in Greek philosophy was Plato. Held to a dualism of two worlds the numeral and the phenomenal and to an anthropological dualism of body-soul. The body was not evil but it was a burden and hindrance to the soul. The wise man cultivate the soul so that it might rise above the body at death be freed from the body and escape to the world above. Most of the philosophers of Greece; followed Plato view in his view of soul and body. No man can discuss the relation of soul and body today without encountering some resurgence of the Platonic view.

The Hebrew: understanding of man

In Hebrew there is no trace of dualism as advocated by Plato. In Hebrew, the word body never stands in contrast to the sould (nephesh). More often the word for flesh (basar) is used to

designate the body. The word basar carries a physical meaning. One significant usage is “flesh” as symbol of human weakness in relation to God. Basar is something that men and animals possess in their weakness which God does not possess. **“My Spirit shall not abide in man forever for he is the flesh”** (Gen.6:3). **“The Egyptians are men and not God: and their horses are flesh and not spirit”** (Isa.31:3).

Soul (nephesh) is not a higher part of man standing over against his body but designates the vitality or life principle in man. **God breathed into man’s nostril’s the breath of life and man became a living nephesh** (Gen.2:7). Body and the divine breath together make the vital active nephesh.

The word nephesh is extended from the life principle to include the feelings passions, will, and even the mentality of man. Nephesh is used as synonym for man himself. Families were numbered as so many souls (Gen.12:5; 46:27). Death afflicted the nephesh (Num.23:10), as well as the body.

A third term is spirit (ruach). The root meaning of the word is **“air in motion”** and it is used of every kind of wind. God’s ruach is his breath his power- working in the world (Isa.40:7) creating and sustaining life (Ps 33:6; 104: 29-30). Man’s ruach- his breath- comes from God’s ruach (Isa.42:5; Job 27:5). Man is conceived of as possessing ruach inbreather from God, as an element in his personality (Gen.45:27; I Sam.30:12; I Kings 10:5). God is the supreme Spirit (Gen. 6:3; Isa. 31:3). Ruach in man is expanded to include the whole range of emotional and volitional life thus overlapping with nephesh. The difference between nephesh and ruach in man is that nephesh designates man in relation to other men as man living the common life of men, while ruach is man in his relation to God. However, neither nephesh nor ruach is conceived of as

a part of man capable of surviving the death of basar. They both designate man as a whole viewed from different perspectives.

Another development is that while the Old Testament ruach is the power of God at work in the world in later writings the personal use of “**Preuma**” is primary.

The origin of spirit is the divine breath is forgotten and the spirit is regarded as a constituent element in man. The development of ruach was completed in the preuma. God, the “**Lord**” of all of spirits. Preuma represents man in his Godward side; while Psychē represents man in his human side preuma is frequently used of supernatural spirits who can affect man for good or bad. Paul never uses psychē as a separated entity in man, neither can psychē survive the death of the body. Psychē is “**life**” understood against a Hebrew background.

In Romans 11:3, Paul quotes from the Old Testament where Elijah complains that they seek my psychē. Psychē here is clearly his life. When Epaphroditus risked his soul for Paul, he nearly died (Phil.2:30).

When Aquilla and Priscilla risked their necks for Paul’s psychē they nearly lost their lives on behalf of his. Psychē goes beyond mere physical life, and refers to man as thinking, working and feeling person. Paul willingly spend and was spent for the souls of the Corinthian church (2 Cor.12:15), he refers to something for more than their bodily life. Paul is concerned about man as a whole is emphasis is upon the inner life. Paul shared with the Thessalonians not only the Gospel but also his very soul (1 Thess.2:8); suggests more than offering even to die for their redeemed life in Christ. To strive for the Gospel with one’s soul is very close to standing steady in one spirit (Phil.1:27); here psychē is nearly interchangeable with preuma in doing the will of God with one heart.

However, psychè and preuma are not interchangeable but refer to man's inner life viewed from two points of view preuma is man's inner self viewed in terms of man's relationship to God and to other men, psychè is man as a living being as a human personality the vitality of man viewed from the point of view of his body and flesh. Psychè is that specifically human state of being alive which inheres in man as a striving, willing purposing self. There is one difference between Paul and the Old Testament. The central term for man in the Old Testament was nephesh or psychè. In Paul it is preuma. "Spirit" has made a dramatic advance, psychè a dramatic retreat; Paul's Christian experience the knowledge of preuma sets the basis for his anthropology. The most important Pauline use of preuma is as a designation for God's Spirit. Paul speaks of the preuma of God (Rom 8:14; 1 Cor.2:11; 3:16; 2 Cor 3:3); of the Holy Spirit (1 Thess.4:8; Eph.1:13; 4:30) and the Spirit of Christ (Rom 8:9; Gal. 4:6; Phil.1:19). Paul identifies Christ and the Spirit in the work of salvation. The sphere of the Spirit's activity is humanity, and it is with the spirit of man that God's Spirit is largely concerned. It is with the spirit of man that serves God. (Rom.1:9). Man as spirit is able to enjoy union with the Lord our God (1Cor.6:17); in prayer (1Cor.14:14) and prophecy (1Cor.14:32) are exercises of man's spirit. Grace bestowed by God upon man is in the sphere of the spirit (Gal.6:18). Renewal is experienced in the spirit (Eph.4:23). The divine life imparted to man is in the realm of the spirit even where the body is perishing (Rom. 8:10).

God through the Spirit witnesses to man's spirit that he is a child of God (Rom.8:16). Because man is spirit that he is able to enter into relationship with God, to fellowship with God, and to enjoy the blessings of God. The preuma is set over against his body as the inner dimension of man in contrast with outer. It is necessary to seek sanctification in body and spirit (1 Cor.7:34:

2Cor7: 1) in this latter age the Holy Spirit (preuma) imparts life only to the spirit of the newborn man.

The disease of the spirit of man

The scripture in Jeremiah 17:9; **“The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked who can know it?”** In Genesis 6:5; **“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”**.

The above scriptures, point to the fact that the disease of the heart and evil imaginations come from the poisoned spirit of man when the spirit is poisoned the flesh of man control his spirit and interferes with the relationship of Man’s spirit with the Spirit of God. There is a realm of fellowship with God in which spirit enjoys fellowship with Spirit, a realm that transcends the process of the mind because man is spirit. Preuma is man’s inner self the word is naturally used to represent man as such in terms of his self-consciousness as a willing and knowing self.

To act in the same spirit (2 Cor. 12:18) means to act with the same altitude and intention when Paul speaks of finding refreshment or rest for his spirit (1 Cor.6:18; 2 Cor. 2:13; 7:13) he means that he had found inner rest. There is however a contrast between rest of mind (2 Cor. 2:13) and rest of the flesh (2 Cor. 7:5). The former reference places emphasis solely upon inner distress while the latter includes the outward affliction encountered. Preuma is a cause of man’s self-awareness or self consciousness according to 1 Cor 2:11; **“ for what person knows a man’s thoughts except the spirit of man which is within him”** preuma is used here of man’s self-awareness or self consciousness. God is preuma; the human preuma is the “organ” which receives the Spirit of God. Because man is preuma he is capable of receiving the divine preuma and thus coming into a close living relationship with God. All men possess preuma but the

reception of the divine preuma means the renewal of human preuma so that it acquires new dimensions. When Paul says that men are in human situation dead but made a live in Christ (Eph.2:1) he must mean that they were spiritually dead their spirit did not enjoy a living relationship with God.

The dead spirit, reproduce a reprobate mind under which man lost his self- awareness, self-control and self- consciousness. To be made a live means to be quickened in spirit so that men enter into living fellowship with God. Man who constitutes preuma is also a “body” (sōma). Man does not have a sōma; he is soma man his person as whole can be denoted by soma. If I give my body to be burned (1 Cor.13:3); i deliver myself to death. The offering of the body as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:2) means the surrender of one’s self to God. The body mean man in respect to his being able to make himself the object of his own action or to experience himself as the subject to whom something happens. Sōma (body) stands equivalent to man. The body can become an obstacle but is not a hindrance of itself. The body is an intergral part of man’s being the body of flesh is corruptible and mortal (Rom. 6:12; 8:11; 2 Cor. 4:11) and therefore is not the realm in which one now finds his true life. It is the fact that a “body is death” (Rom. 7:24); the body is weak and mortal and is an instrument of flesh. Sin and death reside in flesh. Since sin can reign in the mortal body (Rom. 6:12), the body is viewed as the instrumentality of sin called a sinful body (Rom. 6:6); and therefore the man in dwelt by the Spirit must put to death the deeds of the body (sōma) (Rom. 8:13). This is the mortification of sinful acts. This mortification of sinful acts is the result of the divine preuma reactivating of man’s preuma by the spirit of God. The body must be kept in subjection. Although it is an intergral part of human existence, since the body is mortal and capable of sin it must be disciplined and prevented form gaining domination over man’s spiritual life. This life is found in the inner man, in the realm of the spirit

when it is quickened and energized by the Spirit of God. The outward man, the body, slowly wastes away and it succumbs to death (2 Cor.4:16). The highest object of one's existence is to be found in the spiritual realm, and the body therefore must become the servant of the spirit the true self. The material realm must be subjected to the spiritual realm physical satisfaction is not evil but in the end they become the end of one's life.

When the body would frustrate spiritual ends that it must be disciplined self- control over the body is attained by its consecration to God. The body is to be presented to God as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). The contrary, the Christian is to recognize that his body is indwelt by the Spirit of God (1 Cor. 6: 19); and a member of Christ (1 Cor.6: 15), the body is to be an instrument in the service of Christ. This is what the wine bibbers, alcoholic people lack the assistance of the Holy Spirit to guide and quicken their dead spirits so has to here the life of God. Man has flesh which is contrasted with Spirit, is sinful and without the aid of the Spirit cannot please God. **“But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit if the Spirit of God really dwells in you** (Rom.8:8, 9). Those are in the flesh cannot please God in the flesh according to Romans 8:8 means not to be in dwelt by the Spirit.

Those who are unregenerate, not indwelt by the Spirit cannot fulfill the Law of love for God to please him. The reprobate unregenerated mind is dominated by sinful thoughts including alcohol consumption. Romans 8:8 explain that unregenerate man cannot please, God by loving him and serving him as God desire. To live after the flesh is death to live after the spirit is life (Rom 8:6)

Paul went to say; **“I know that nothing good dwells within me that is in my flesh** (Rom. 7:18). Flesh were does not mean a physical body but Paul means in his unregenerate nature there dwells none of the goodness that God demands. The flesh is something that stays with the believer even after he has received that Spirit. Paul writes to Galatians that flesh and the Spirit are

opposed to each other, “to prevent you from what you would” (Gal. 5:17). The reception of the Spirit does not mean that the problems of the flesh are disposed off. There is a conflict between the flesh and the Spirit in which the believer must learn how to let the Spirit have dominance.

The source of evil is materiality itself. Paul’s concept of sin is a demonic spiritual beings finds its residence in the physical flesh and while the flesh itself is not identical with sin, it is never the less the seat and organ of the demonic sinful principle. Because man physical consists of flesh, he has become enslaved to the sinful power that dwells in his material substance. Therefore alcoholism is influenced by demonic spirit, than enslave and dwell in the physical flesh of the victim. Therefore to be “in flesh” means to live as an unregenerate man, to be a man who is not dwelt by the Spirit of God.

There is a contrast between the realisms “in the spirit “and in the flesh” in Romans 8: 4-11. A man belongs either to one realm or to the other and a man’s status is determined by whether or not he is indwelt by the spirit of God. Those who are indwelt by the Spirit are in the Spirit, the natural man is in the flesh, the latter lives out his entire life in the humanness that will issue in death. Man is able to serve God only when God’s spirit has indwelt and quickened him in the realm of the spirit.

There is a sharp and absolute contrast between being (in the flesh (unregenerate and being in the spirit (regenerate) there remain in the believer a struggle between the flesh and spirit if flesh means unregenerate human nature the believer still possess this nature even though he has received the Spirit. Even in the Christian the flesh struggles against the Spirit so that he cannot be the (perfect) man that he would wish to be (Gal. 5:17). In this case a person might like to do away with drinking intoxicating alcohols but because of the flesh and his unregenerated spirit he fails.

In first Corinthians 2:14-3:3, Paul describes three classes of people, psychilos the natural man (2:14); sarkikos the fleshly man (3:3) and pneumatikes, the spiritual man (3:1). The natural man is the unregenerate man, the man who is “in the flesh” (Rom 8:9). That is the whole realm of his life is devoted to the human level and as such he is unable to know the things of God. The “Spiritual man” is the man whose life is ruled by the Holy Spirit. Between those are those who are flesh who are babes in Christ. The babes might have an indwelling Holy spirit but the Spirit does not exercise full control over their lives and they are still walking “like men” manifesting the works of flesh. These are easily trapped to apostasy and alcoholism, after being converted but fail to attain growth victory over the flesh and alcoholism is possible for weak Christians. A straggle remains in the Christian between the Spirit and the flesh but the way to victory is through the Spirit. Paul view the death of the flesh as something that ahs already happened in the death of Christ. Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires (Gal. 5: 24). They have put off the body of flesh in the circumcision of the heart which is accomplished by Chirst (Col. 2: 11). **“I have been crucified with Christ”** (Gal.2:20), and **“our old self was crucified with him”** (Rom. 6:6). The struggle between the flesh and the Spirit is supported by the doctrine of crucifixion the crucificion of the flesh means to bring sin to a dead state. How can we who died to sin still live in it? **“We have been united with him by baptism into death”** (Rom 6: 2-4).

In Colossians 3:9; Paul insists **“Do not lie to one another seeing that you have put off the old nature (anthropon) with its practices and have put on the new nature (anthropon)**. The **“old man”** denotes the old self (anthropon) has been crucified with Christ Rom 6:6). The death of the flesh does not come automatically. It is an event that must be appropriated by faith

Believer are to recognize that the flesh has been crucified with Christ but because it is a process it has to be put into practice in daily experience.

Because I have died with Christ I am to put to death the deeds of the body (Rom, 8:13). The body is here used as a vehicle for the works of the flesh the sensual life of the unregenerate nature. Dying with Christ should put to death all that is earthly; including alcoholism and impurity (Col. 3:5) .Because I have already put off the old nature and put on the new nature I have to think heavenly things (Col.3:2). Another way of describing victory over the flesh and alcoholism is to constantly desire to walk in the Word and Spirit. “**Walk in the Spirit and do not gratify the desires of the flesh**” (Gal. 5:16; cf. Rom. 8:4) walking in the Spirit means to live each moment under the control of the Holy Spirit.

The heart of man

Paul used the heart to characterize man the word heart (Kardia) is the same word as the Hebrew word (Leb), and designates the inner life of man. The heart or inner aspect of man is contrasted to the outward and visible. True circumcision is a matter of the heart (Rom. 2:29), not of the flesh. Physical absence can mean presence in heart (1 Thess.2:17); outward glory is vanity compared to that of the heart (2 Cor 5:12) .The heart holds secrets that only the Holy Spirit can reveal (1 Cor 4:5; 14:25). True knowledge of man can be found only by searching the heart (Rom. 8:27). The heart is the seat of the emotions both good and bad. The heart can lust for evil things (Rom.1:24), it can fall sick (Jer.17:9). But Paul says that his heart's desire is for conversion of his fellow Jews (Rom. 10:1). Paul wrote to the church at Corinth in “ **anguish of heart**” (2 Cor.2:4), he was pained in his heart because the Jews had rejected Christ (Rom. 9:2) his plea to the Corinthians to “ **open your hearts to us**” (2 Cor.7:3) means to receive them in love.

Kardia can also be used for man's intellectual activity. In Romans 1:21; the heart of ungodly men is without understanding, Kardia is used also to mean the seat of will, the heart has purposes or intentions that only God knows (1 Cor.4:5). The heart can be impenitent because it is willful in wrong doing (Rom.2:5)

The heart can be obedient (Rom 6:17). The kardia is the organ of ethical judgment. The senseless hearts of ungodly men are those whose sin has made them incapable of sound judgment (Rom 1:21). The heart can be corrupt (Rom. 2:5). The kardia is the seat of religious experience God, light shines in the heart (2 Cor. 4:6); the heart receives the down payment of the Spirit (2 Cor 1: 22). The heart experiences the outpouring of God's love (Rom.5:5). Christ dwell in the heart (Eph.3:17); the peace of Christ can reign in the hearts of men (Col.3:15).

The mind of man

Paul often speaks of the mind (nous) by which he designates man as a knowing thinking judging creature. The mind is the organ of understanding (1 Cor.14:14). Paul exhorts the Thessalonians not be shaken in their minds (2 Thess. 2:2) i.e. confused in thought. The mind has moral judgment is clear from the fact that godless men have a base mind (Rom. 1:28). They live in the futility of their minds (Eph. 4:17). Even the flesh can be said to have its mind (Col.2:18) which leads to vain pride. In believers the mind must constantly be renewed (Rom.12:2; Eph 4:23). The mind is a human faculty that can be dominated either by evil or by God mind can also designate the moral consciousness as it determines will and action. The flesh dominates the mind in the unregenerate man, so that although he serves the law of God with his mind with the flesh he serves the law of sin (Rom.7:25).

The inner man

There is an innerman of unregenerate man and of the regenerate man. In Romans 7:22 the innermost self is used synonymously with the mind which can approve of the law of God and will to obey it but finds itself impotent the inner man or man himself is so far as he enjoys self-awareness as he thinks and wills and feels. In 2 Corinthians 4:16 the inner man is contrasted with the outer man- man as a corruptible earthly being. The outer man is wasting away the inner man is being renewed every days. The inward man is the real self that passes from the body of flesh to the body of resurrection. The inner man is the higher, essential self either redeemed or redeemable made for God and opposed to sin.

PART TWO

Reflecting the current alcohol problems in the Bible

Sad to say the Bible scholars have been quite with regard to communicating Biblical solutions and waging the war against alcohol through the pen into publications. Probably they have restricted themselves to pulpit sermons alone in their respective congregations. But the question is why the heathen should be concerned with this global problem of alcohol consumption, which result into hardships, violence in many families (WHO, 2014). God created man in his image in complete perfection (Genesis 1.27) the fall of man into sin, resulted into hardships for Adam and Eve the first family (Genesis3;17-18). Alcohol is the fruit of the fallen man who has lost the image of God, the God of peace and plenty. According to Joel *et al*; 2015, alcohol consumption was higher among in both Kilimanjaro and Mwanza regions in Tanzania, but men in Kilimanjaro were involving themselves in alcohol intoxication in Kilimanjaro than in Mwanza region. Paul writes in Ephesians 5: 23 “for **the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is heads of the church and he is the saviors of the body**”. Drunkards cannot lead their families this is supported by the report of ITV television network which reported the highest prevalence of Alcohol consumption in Rombo District in Kilimanjaro region northern Tanzania. Women were appealing to the government’s intervention as families and especially youth were dying because of alcohol and the economy of the once thriving region coming to the stand still. It was further reported that because of chronic alcohol consumption in the Rombo Districts, women were crossing the border to Kenya to seek sexual partners. The sex-alcohol linkage is quite clear but the way it is conducted show the magnitude of the chronic alcohol and its impact on the disintegration of the society and culture in this part of Tanzania. Hebrews 13:4 “**Marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge**”.

The alcoholic never will he ever honor marriage. Think of the incoming judgment of God to the women who have lost their marriages because their husbands have decided to destroy the temple of the living God (1Corinthians 3:16). Think of women crossing the border to seduce men in Kenya to satisfy themselves in sex, this is nothing but the national and church shame. Prevalence of Heavy Episodic Drinking (HED) is a global socio- economic problem (WHO, 2014). In Isaiah 24:3 **“the earth will be completely laid waste and totally plundered the LORD has spoken this word”**.

Alcohol consumption and its impact to humanity is one of the factors for total plundering of this world, this will be exacerbated by the associated diseases (WHO, 2011). Alcohol is the major obstacle to the achievement of sustainable Millennium goals: 12 out of 17 millennium goals are at risk because of heavy alcohol consumption (IOGT: 2016; Lim *et al*; 2012). Alcohol consumption is making man lose power and ability to rule and manage the world, contrary to Genesis 1:26-27.

Alcohol consumption is one of the factors that increase poverty in the neighborhoods (Bechman, 1988). God created man to associate himself with development. Genesis 1: 28 **“God blessed them and said to them. Be fruitful and increase in number fill the earth and subdue it rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves of the ground”**. In Genesis 2:15, **“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and care of it”**.

God created man and commanded him to work but also to preserve the Creation. Alcohol consumption makes people to be idle, lazy and that is why it stimulates crimes including cheating and stealing. Paul writes to the church of the Thessalonians: 2 Thesalonians 3:6-10 in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, **“we command you brothers to keep away from every**

brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example we were not idle when we were not with you nor did we eat any one's food without paying for it. On the contrary we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this not because we do not have the right to such help but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow for even when we were with you we gave you this rule “ if a man will not work, he shall not eat”. My experience in Kigoma region, and particular in banana plantations showed that Heavy Eposodic drinkers were owning poorly managed banana fields, poverty and under development in Kibondo and Kakonko districts between 2006- 2016. It is also important to note that the church had a weak stronghold in those districts compared to Kasulu District which was characterized by a strong church impact on the living styles of people.

Human intoxication with alcohol liquors from the Bible perspective

Alcohol is defined as a colorless and inflammable liquid produced by fermentation and distillation (Webster, 1987); however alcohol liquors are often used without distillation. An alcohol producing substrate should undergo fermentation as the result of biological organism as yeasts or bacteria work on the substrates producing enzymes that hydrolize carbohydrates into simple compounds called alcohol of which ethanol and methanol are common in human consumed alcohols. The use of fermented vine's wine as an intoxicating drink is reported in the Bible in Genesis 9:20-27: and Noah began to be a husband man and he planted a vineyard and he drank of the wine and was drunk; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham the father of Canaan, saw the naked ness of his father and told his two brethren without. And show and Japheth took a garment and laid it upon both their shoulders and went backward and covered

the nakedness of their father and their faces were backward and they saw not their father's nakedness of their father and their faces were backward and they Noah a work from his wine and knew what his younger son had done unto him and he said cursed be Canaan a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, **“Blessed be the Lord God of Shem, and Caanan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and shall dwell in the tents of Shem and Canaan shall enlarge Japheth and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem: an Caanaan shall be his servant”**. The use alcohol by Noah is registering the first father-son oriented curse to Ham and his generations. The sons of the cursed Ham are reported to be Cush and Mizraim and Phut and Canaan.

And the sons of Cush; Seba and Havilah and Sabtah and Raamah, Sabtecha and the sons of Raamah, Sheba and Dedan (Genesis 10:6-8); however this system of classifying people as shown of the table of nations in Genesis 10:6-8 was apparently ethnic and geographical . The Biblical Hamites ranges from Phoenicia through Palestine and into Africa they included the Cushites (south of the Red sea) the Egyptians, the Canaanites and Put (Libya).

Modern scholars use a somewhat different system, classifying people according to languages. They divided the peoples of the ancient near east into two broad families the semito- hamitic family and the Indo-european family and people listed as Hamites in the table of the nations are included in both families. The Semito- Hamitic family includes the Canaanites, the Egyptians and the Cushites. The Indo-european family includes the philistines what is important is that the curse of the father came to the son, because of the former's sin of drinking fermented wine.

According to Genesis 9: 21; Noah drank the fermented wine (Hebrew, yayin) (H3196) which was intoxicating and he became drunken (Hebrew: shaker(H7937) that means is body was filled with the drink abundantly.

Lot the son of the brother of Abram is also reported in the Bible to be the victim of being intoxicated by falling in abundant fermented wine (Yayin, H 3196) which led to committing the first ever sin of a man to lay with his daughters in the Bible.

In Genesis 19:32-35, we read, **“come let us make our father drink wine and we will lie with him that we may preserve seed of our father. And they made their father drink wine that night and the first born went in and lay with her father and he perceived not when she lay down nor when she arose and it came to pass on the morrow that the first born said unto the younger, behold, I lay yesterday night with my father; let us make him drink wine (Yanin, H 3196) and we will lie with him that we may preserve seed of our father. And they made their father drink wine that night also and lay with him and he perceived not when she lay down nor when she arose”** it is quite obvious that Lot was intoxicated with the abundance of the wine he bibbed he was drunkard (Herbrew, shikkor shikkor, H 2910) and that is why he could not perceive the act of committing fornication with his two daughters.

God, Elohim gave the command to Israel, forbidding them not to drink intoxicating drinks; in Deuteronomy 29:6, **“ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink that ye might know that I am the Lord (Elohim) your God”**. In Hebrew a strong drink is called shekar (H2941) it is one which is intoxicating altering the health of brain and mind. The saints of the Old Testament who were faithful to the Law of Moses shun away from taking intoxicating fermented wine and similar drinks. I Samuel 1:15 and Hannah answered and said, **“No my Lord I am a woman of a sorrowful Spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink but have poured out my soul before the Lord”**. In the prophecy of Jeremiah the Lord God, approved the Rechabites for observing the command of their father Jonadab who commanded them not to drink wine. In Jeremiah 35:13-14, we read; **“thus saith the Lord of**

hosts the God of Israel: Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem will ye not receive instruction to harken to my words? Saith the Lord the words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine are performed for unto this day they drink none but obey their father's commandments notwithstanding I have spoken unto you rising early and speaking but ye hearkened not unto me".

Taking intoxicating drinks destroy the image of God in man, God has commanded his people to be holy in all manner of life (Lev: 11:44-45: 19:2; 20:7: 1 Peter 1:16). To be holy is to have a close intimacy of the Spirit of God, abiding in the soul of man. The scripture, John 15:4 **"Abide in me and I in you"**. Romans 8:9b **"now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of his"** Rom.8:11 **"but if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you"**. The Spirit of the Lord dwells in a person who is not defiled with intoxicating strong drinks and fermented wine. The message of God to the high priest, Zacharias testify of this spiritual fact in Luke 1: 13-15 but the angel said unto him, **"Fear not, Zacharias for thy prayers is heard and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son and thou shalt have joy and gladness and many shall rejoice at his birth for he shall be great in the sight of the Lord and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink and he shall be filled with the holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb"**. The greatness of a person before the Lord among other things is that the person should be filled with the Holy Ghost.

In Judges 13: 2-5 we read **"and there was a certain man of Zorah of the family of the Danites whose name was Manoah and his wife was barren and bare not. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto the woman and said unto her behold now thou art barren and bearest not but thou shalt conceive and bear a son. Now therefore beware I pray thee and**

drink not wine no strong drink and eat not any unclean thing: For, lo, thou shalt conceive and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistine”.

The Nazarite of the Old Testament were people set apart by the Lord being empowered by the Holy Spirit for specific ministry.

In the New Testament the new birth consecrates us to be Nazarites to the Lord having a seal of the Holy Spirit. I Corinthians 5:17; we read; **“therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature old things are passed away behold all things are become new”**. This is a sign which Samuel the prophet told Saul who was to become the first king of Israel. I Samuel 10:6; **“and the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee and thou shalt prophesy with them and shall be turned into another man”**. The Holy Spirit is the seal of God to guarantee our son ship into the kingdom. In Ephesians 1: 13 Paul writes **“in whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the word of truth the gospel of your salvation in whom also after that ye believed ye sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise”**.

The gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit is for all who believe in Jesus Christ and the gospel of the new birth in water, word and blood (1 John 5:8). This is the promise of God through the prophet Joel 2:28-29, in the Old Testament; **“and it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy your old men shall see visions. And also upon the servants and upon the hand maids in those days will pour out my Spirit.**

Jesus Christ echoed the promise of the Holy Spirit to his disciples (John 14:26; 15; 26:16:7-15: Acts 1: 8). The fulfillment of this promise was manifested at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-37) The

apostle Peter preached at Pentecost promising the believers that God in Christ Jesus will baptize all who believe in him through his Son by the Holy Spirit. In Acts 2:38-39; we read,

“Then Peter said unto them repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you and to your children and to all that the Lord our God shall call.

However, most Christians have become short of this precious gifts of the Lord because of the sin of drinking intoxicating drinks. Paul wrote to the Ephesians Christians and to us also to shun away from intoxicating fermented drives in order to have the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18; **“And be not drunk with wine where is excess but be filled with the Spirit”**; to the church of Galatia, Paul denounced drunkenness as being the fruit of the flesh, that it was demonic motivated. In Galatians 5: 19a, 21; Paul writes; **“now the works of the flesh are manifest envying’s murders drunkenness, reveling and such like of the which I tell you before as I have also told you in time past that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God”**.

The influence of alcohol on human ethics

Psalm 51:2 **“Behold, I was sharpen in iniquity and in sin my mother conceive”**

The Psalmist, King David presents a graphic description of his life, since his conception in the womb of his mother. David’s father was Jesse a descendant of Boaz and Ruth of the tribe of Judah. There seem to have been ten children’s (eight sons) and David was the youngest and the son of Jesse of old age (1 Sam 17:12, 22:3). He was born and reared at Bethlehem (cf. 1 Chr. 11:17; Luke 2: 4). From the later reference it is known that he spent much of his youth as a shepherd (1 Sam 16:12; 17:34-36). David who ruled Israel between 1010-970 B.C., was born

when Israel was a loose association of tribal groups, under King Saul. The spiritual shortcomings of Saul were ever more serious than his weaknesses as a leader touched God who determined to give Israel a new ruler who would be a man **“after my own heart”** (1 Sam 13:4). The fact that David claims to have been conceived under iniquity describes a lack of moral ethics on the part of David’s mother. The scripture here does not clearly indicate what kind of sin David was lamenting for; but wine bibbing could be a prescribed to be a sin in question; or some lack of moral ethics in general.

The importance of wine in the life of the people of Palestine and the Middle East can be seen in the fact that Noah (Gen. 9 :20-21) made wine and that the fruitfulness of Canaan was exhibited to Moses by the returning spies bringing clusters of grapes so huge they had to be transported on poles (Num. 13:21-27). The wine of Palestine was almost exclusively made from grape juice although some was made from pomegranates (Song of Solomon 8:2). In the Old Testament wine is used in a number of connections: (a) as a blessing from the Lord (Gen 27:28; Psalms 104:15). (b) bread and wine are often mentioned as food drink (Gen 14:18); (c) wine was used as a drink offering to the LORD (Exodus 29:40; Leviticus 23:13), (d) priests were forbidden to drink wine during the service (Lev. 10:9) (e) a Nazarene was forbidden to drink wine during the period of his vow (Numbers 6:3-4) (f) wine is used in a metaphorical sense to signify reconciliation with God (Isa. 55:1) and a sign of God’s wrath (Jer. 25:15) and also as a sign of the seductive enticements of foreign vices (Jer. 51:21). The making of wine was very important to the Hebrew people. The grapes were usually harvested in August and September. At that time, the people of a village would leave their homes and erect around the vineyards in which to live so they could work uninterrupted. It was a time of great rejoicing (Isa. 16:10; Jer. 25:30, 48:33).

Wine was used in everyday life in a number of instances; (a) at banquets (John 2:1); (b) as an item of trade (2 Chr. 2:8-10); and (c) as medicine (Luke 10:34; 1 Tim. 5:23). Because of the climate of Palestine; fermentation began almost immediately after the pressing out of the juice. But this does not mean that Jesus and his disciples used to drink fermented intoxicating wine (Mt. 11:19; Lk. 22:18; Jn. 2:1). However we should bear in mind that the degree of fermentation determined the alcoholic content of the wine.

The men of God drunk wine

But resisted sinning against

GOD

In Ruth 3:7-15 **“And when Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of corn: and she came softly, and uncovered his feet, and laid her down. And it come to pass at the midnight, that the man afraid, and turned himself; and, behold, a women lay at his feet, and he said, Who art thou? And she answered; I am Ruth thine handmaid: for thou art a near kinsman. And he said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my daughter: for thou hast she wed more kindness in the latter and then at the beginning, inasmuch as thou followedst not young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, fear not, I will do to thee all that thou requires: for all the city of my way people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman. And now it is true that I am thy near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than i. Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform it into thee, the part of a kinsman well; let him do the kinsman’s part: but if he will not do the part of a kinsman to thee, then will I do the part of a kinsman to thee as the LORD liveth: lie down until morning. And she lay at his feet until the morning: and she rose up before one could know another. And he said; Let it be not**

known that a woman came into the floor. Also he said, Bring the veil that thou hast upon thee, and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six measures of barley and laid it on her: and she went into the city”. Boaz was a man of integrity he did not allow himself, to violate the Law of Moses, by laying with Ruth without paying the redeemer price, according to the Law. He did not like to break the social structure of his community, by allowing wine to control his decisions. Boaz was a man with a fear of GOD of Israel; he obeyed and lived by the Law.

Ethics deals with questions of morality as they pertain to the individual. Differences in the types of ethics used in different occupations, i.e Ministerial ethics refers to rules or principles that govern a minister’s behavior towards the member of his church. Business ethics: a code that regulates the action of business towards their customer employees, and competitors Christian Ethics are principles guiding the action of Christian set down in the Ten Commandments and on the Sermon of the Mount.

The Ten Commandments is the metaphor of the Law; while the sermon of the Mount stands for the new covenant. Christ has ended the age of the Law and inaugurated the age of Christ, which means freedom from bondage and the end of the law for the believer.

However, it is clear that inasmuch as Paul always regards the Law as Holy and Just and Good he never thinks of the Law as being abolished. It remains the expression of the will of God. However in Christ, God has done what the Law could not do namely condemned sin in the flesh that the just requirements of the Law might be fulfilled in those who walk by the Spirit (Rom. 8:3-4). Thus being freed from the Law we uphold the Law (Rom. 3.31). The new life in Christ, has established the highest level of Christian ethics. The Law of Christ which is the law of love is the summation of the Law, love will not commit adultery, or lie or steal or covert or do any

wrong to one's neighbor (Rom.12:8-10). Taking intoxicating wine is a tool Satan use to blind people, so that they should commit sin against, GOD. King David committed fornication with Uriah's wife, Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:1-4) **“the woman conceived and sent and told David and said, I am with child”** (2Sam. 11:5). David knew that Uriah, Bathsheba's husband has been away on battle fields for some time, so it was so difficult his wife could convince a child from her husband. Under the law, fornication and adultery was punishable by death (Lev. 19:20). King David persuaded Uriah to go to his wife, who had a child in a womb from David, but God's strong hand intervened and prevented Uriah from going to his house to sleep with sinful Bathsheba so that the sin of David could eventually be exposed to the public. In 2 Sam. 11: 13 the scripture says; **“And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him and he made him drunk and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servant of his lord but went not down to his house”**.

The trap of alcohol to blind Uriah failed and subsequently David authored the second plan to kill Uriah on the battle field and he succeeded in doing so (2 Sam.11:15-17). King David wanted to use alcohol to conceal his sin of adultery with Bathsheba but the plan was foiled by God.

Drunkenness is debauchery and ruin (Eph. 5:18). Christians should so live as to command the respect of outsiders (1 Thess. 4:12) and the approval of men (Rom. 14:18). Christian should shun anything that brings shame (Eph. 5:12).

In travelling and experiences in my own youthful age in Muhutwe village, Muleba District; between 1966-1974; I noted some instances I could call shameful practices committed by drunkards; there was a man called Theophilus who sold his banana coffee plantation, because of his frequent drinking of commercial beer **“ tusker lager”** despising to drink the local, cheap banana brew **“Orubisi”**. The bill from the local tavern he was frequently visiting was too big for

him to pay, subsequently he sold his banana-coffee plantation to pay the bill, and he was employed by the new land lord to earn his living. In my village it was common to see alcohol bibbers selling pre-mature coffee to affluent persons to get money for drinking. When the time of harvesting mature coffee berries in June – July, and the processing and selling of coffee to Bukoba Cooperative Union, commenced in August/September the wine bibbers were already in their shameful garment of shame and poverty for themselves and their families. These people never succeeded to send their children to school during that period, coffee boom. In our modern Christian outlook, social ethics commands a predominant place in our ethical thinking and moral behavior.

By social ethics, we mean a concern thus social structures should be based upon principles of humanity and concern for human well-being. Alcohol consumption is a social vice that is used by the devil to destroy social structures. The solid relationship between; men and women, children, marriages and the wholeness of the society are destroyed by alcoholism. The chairman of Muhutwe village, in Muleba District, Mr Ignatus Barnaba lost his life during drinking of the distilled banana spirit “**Konyagi**”, witnesses said there arose a hot political debate among those alcoholics, and one of them named Ploti from a nearby village of Kigaze rose from the group, took a panga and killed the innocent chairman who was declared dead at Kagondo Roman Catholic Hospital, in Muleba District. My experience as a youth in the village; show that most of the men I knew who were drunkards; had the habit of marrying, divorcing and re –marrying. There was one man called Valentine Clemens who by the time i left the village in 1974, he had a record of being married and divorced at least 13 women. In the same village there was a prevalence of men committing adultery with their neighbors’ some I saw with my own eyes while collecting fire wood in surrounding local bushes.

Ethics is part and component of the Law, the permanence of the law is reflected further in the fact that the Apostle Paul, appeals to specific commands in the law as the norm for Christian conduct in his Epistles. He appeals to several specific commandments (*entolai*) of the Decalogue that are fulfilled by love (Rom. 13:8-10). As Paul talk to “any other commandment” designates everything in the law that relates to one’s neighbor. The law continues to be the expression of the will of God for conduct even for those who are no longer under the law.

Paul quotes the command to love father and mother as an expression of the will of God with a promise (Eph. 6: 2). The permanent aspect of the law is ethical and not ceremonial. As a testimony; when I was young my father was a community leader and frequently came an elder women who came to complain to my father, because her son, was beating her wherever he came home drunk at night.. This son was living single having failed to have a solid marriage, and his mother was a widow. Alcohol was used to destroy the social structure of that family in this instance as is in other instances. On the backdrop of all these vices; the affected people were ceremonial Christians in the Roman Catholic Church

The scripture, 2 Thessalonians 3:10 **“For even when were with you, this we command you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat”**.

The pagan societies are characterized by corruption and vices that stems from the rejection to acknowledge God (Rom. 1:28). Ungodliness precedes wickedness and is its ultimate source (Rom. 1:18). Rejection of Christ led to darkness and all kind of ethical folly, including idleness. Idleness was the common vice in Crete when Paul sent Titus to minister there. Titus 2:1-6 **“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as become holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine teachers of good**

things. That they may teach the young women to be sober to love their husbands, to love their children. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded”.

The society in Crete had problems in ethics, founded on their pagan knowledge and way of living. Paul writes in Titus 1:12-13 **“one of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, the Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, and slow bellies. This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply that they may be sound in the faith “**

From the foregoing the Cretans were lazy people enjoyed idleness and were wine bibbers including older women; who failed to train their daughters to prepare them for sound marriages. Paul might have noted lack of ethics in young marriages he said,” **That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands to love their children”** (Titus 2:4). There was an ethical and moral problem in marriages among the converts to Christianity. As the people of Crete were criticized for living a lazy life associated with wine bibbing. The present generation of youth in Tanzania is characterized with idleness and high episodic of drinking alcohol.

My experience, in Kibondo District, while I was working as an employee of the Ministry of Agriculture, showed me that, most of banana coffee field in the district had degraded, being unproductive, because of lacking attention, care, because most men engaged themselves in high episodic alcoholism. The families were living below the level of the poverty line induced by alcoholism in that society. Alcoholism is a wicked social vice, in Tanzania, the ITV television network, reported that Kibosho District in Kilimanjaro region was at the verge of total of economic collapse, as the entire youth, and men, engaged themselves in high episodic drinking

of alcohol, forgetting their social and family responsibilities. Sad to say those people were visiting the church for the worship of UNKNOWN GOD. The social and ethical environment had turned worse. Men had neglected their wives and marriages; women were denied their sexual rights, the means of procreation and an act of mutual pleasure to married partners. In first Corinthians 7:4-5, Paul writes; **“the wife hath no power of her own body, but the husband and likewise also the husband hath no power of his own body but the wife. Defraud yet not one the other except it be with consent for a time, that may give yourselves to fasting and prayers and come together again that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency”**. Heavy Episodic Drinking Alcoholic liquors in Kibosho District have led to the disintegration of marriages, families, culture and social harmony. This has led widespread idleness, the decline in economic activities and social ethical distortions. The leading alcohol bibbers are men and the youth; alcohol has taken the people of Kibosho into captivity. Women and children and the old people are lamenting; because alcoholism has tiered apart the social integrity of that society in Northern Tanzania.

The lamentations of Jeremiah 1:1-2, **“How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people; how is she become as a widow! She that was great among the nations and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary! She weepiest sore in the night and her tears are on her cheeks: among are her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her they are become her enemies”**

Because of alcoholism, children are living as orphans and their mothers as widows. The family is no longer an institution of God. Many children are wondering as beasts in many parts of the country especially in towns and big cities.

The scriptures in says; Ephesians 5:22-25

“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the LORD. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subjected unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it.” Through alcoholism Satan has entered marriages and has succeeded in destroying this important institution of God. A drunkard husband cannot love his wife neither a drunkard wife can be submissive to her husband.

Alcoholism an instrument of apostasy

Alcoholism is an instrument used by the devil to impact apostasy in lives of backs sliding, unstable weak Christians. Departing from the faith happens today just as it did in the Old Testament and in the church at Ephesus, where Timothy was when Paul wrote this epistle. There are always people who understand the faith intellectually and behave according to the revelation of God but have no heart for living to please God. Hebrews 3:12 says that those who depart from God demonstrate an unbelieving heart. Some shall depart from the faith. (Gk., *aphistēmi*,” to remove yourself from the position you originally occupied). Apostasy is intention abandonment of faith. An apostate is not someone who never knew the truth but someone who knew it and rejected it. False religion that propagates and accepts alcohol consumption as a regal ethical act not considered as sin have activated apostasy and backsliding of many forcing them to move away from the way of salvation of the LORD Jesus Christ who is the WAY (John 14:16); to all who believe and seek to live a new life (Acts 2:38-42). Paul writes 5:18, **“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with Spirit”**. Satan has used drinking of alcohol to steal love, between men and women, the love of husbands to wives; the love of fathers and mothers to children and likewise the love of children to their parents.

As a testimony, I know quite a number of husbands who left their wives and children in hardships, living them to live as widows and their children as orphans respectively. These men left their homes some moving to local mining centers, others to fishing villages, road construction sites; where they jumped into pits of all wickedness, drunkenness; adultery, covetousness and not to return back to their families. Some men, because of alcoholism left their families to seek economic activities in, fishing villages where they are completely lost into drunkard ness, idolatry and adultery.

The Spirit of God explicitly says that some will depart from the faith (1Tim. 4:1). Paul knew there would be apostates at the church in Ephesus because the Holy Spirit had revealed him that fact. Apostasy was revealed also before in the Old Testament, showing not all people of Israel, belonged to God (Deut. 13: 12-15; 32:15-18; Dan 8:23-25). Several other New Testament passages mention those who will depart from the faith in the end times. In Matthew 24:5, the LORD said; **“many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ; and shall deceive many”**. The instruments of deception include false doctrines and the acceptance of alcohol consumption in the church. But the Law of the Spirit of the New Testament does not accept alcohol consumption. Paul writes in I Corinthians 3:16-17 **“know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelled in you? If any men define the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are”**. God did not like his consecrated people to drink intoxicated drinks. In Leviticus 10:9; **“do not drink wine or strong drink, that thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations”**. God forbid the priest in the Old Testament to drink wine or strong drink while in service, because they were standing in His

presence to present offering and prayers for his people. Many people todate have died before the LORD because of drinking intoxicated alcoholic liquors.

Every believers in the New Testament, is the priest to ministers before the altar of the LORD. In Hebrews 12:22-24; **“But ye are come into mount Sion, and into the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angles. To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect. And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel”**. Indeed the church of Christ is composed of Priests; I Peter 2:5; **“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house and holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ”**. In 2 Peter 3:3; it said there will come in the last times scoffers abandoning the faith to pursue their own lust (cf., Jude 18). Those scoffers are in the Church benefiting on doing alcohol related commercial business. In I John 2:18-19; the scriptures report the coming of anti-Christ forerunners who will induce deceptions and make many turn away from the faith, in our discussions alcoholism in all of its forms is a strong satanic instrument to impact apostasy.

Apostasy comes by hearing

Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God; so is apostasy also comes by hearing deceptions and false doctrines. The source of apostasy is demonic. Apostates listen and believe in seducing spirits and the teaching of **“demons”** (1 Tim 4:1). There is a spiritual battle in un seen world **“we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities against powers against the rulers of the darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places”** (Eph. 6:12). People and Christians in particular, those with an evil heart of unbelief (depart) from the living God. (Heb. 3:12); because they are deceived by demonic deceptions even though they

live under the hypocrisy of religious life. Many children raised in Christian homes, rebel when they went to collages in different working places, led a stray by wrong companies of atheistic or antichrist cults and ungodly philosophies of false religions that accommodate alcoholism. The seducing spirits that impart alcoholism unto people in 1 Timothy 4:1 refers to the source of false doctrines, demonic spirit being the work of fallen angles. The seducing spirits make a person to wander from the truth making alcohol consumption an essential requirement in life.

The Holy Spirit reveals the sin of alcohol consumption

The Holy Spirit guides the Church, the believers in Christ into truth (John 16:13), but the seducing spirits lead people into error. They are the principalities and powers that the church must wrestle with (Eph 6:11-12). The apostle John, gives a warning to shun away from false teachers, including those who promote alcohol consumption (2 John 7: 10-11). Those false teachers include those who consider alcohol consumption not to be a sin in the church. My father and close friend in faith; Pastor Julius Mutaremwa travelled to Meatu to Minister in that small town way back in early 2000s years. This man of God was received by an elder of the EAG (T) church who was the wife, to the husband who was not a believer. But the man was quite affluent and he owned a bar and made high profit from that business. The man was like Nabal the husband to Abigail; because he was a high episodic alcohol consumer. But this man did not prohibit his wife to attend church services. The Holy Spirit revealed the sin of alcohol drinking to the pastor in this way; in the vision of the night while this man of God was sleeping in that house, he saw Crates of bottles filled with blood. The bar owner was opening the blood filled bottles to serve people sitting in his bar. The LORD warned the bar owner that the blood he was feeding his people shall be demanded of him at the judgment seat. God speaks and warn people in many instances in the scriptures (Deut.29:29; Amos 3:7). I have every reason to believe that

drinking alcohol was drinking blood before the LORD. The blood is a sign of a severe following judgment to all alcoholics. Repentance brought healing. Healing Isaiah 1:19; **“if ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land”**.

When the owner of the house, the host to Pastor Julius Mutaremwa, was told of the vision and the judgment consequences to follow him he humbled himself. Closed the bar and he did not allow the remains bottles of beer to be used by any person but he broke all of them and closed the bar. After a short while, the house in which the former bar operated was rented by the staff of white men from Holland who paid the man large sums of money because he obeyed God. Any form of alcohol is drinking BLOOD before the Lord our God

THE MASTER KEY FOT FIGHTING ALCOHOLISM IN THE CHURCH

a). Teach the physical and spiritual effects of alcohol consumption to people in the church. Alcoholism is not taken serious as a sin which destroys people lives. Some because of lack of knowledge think that the LORD blessed drinking of fermented wine in Cana Galilee (John 2:1-11). In Hosea 4:6, the LORD says; **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: Seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy Gods, I will also forget thy children”**. Many people indeed Christians are alcoholic because they lack the real, truth of the word of God, regarding this health problem (John 8:31-32).

b). The Church must know the works of the Holy Spirit and seek to be filled with Holy Spirit. The demons that motivate people to drinks alcohol will have no influence on Holy Spirit believers. Paul writes: Ephesians 5; 18 **“And be not drunk with wine, where in is excess; but be filled with the Spirit”**. The Christians need to live in the right position with the fellowship with God, keeping the Holy Spirit life with fear and trembling will close the doors to alcoholism.

Paul exhorts in Ephesians 4:30 “**And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God where by ye are sealed unto the day of redemption**”. In order to keep the Holy Spirit at peace the Word of Christ should be rich in the heart of the believers (Col. 3:16, Ps 119:105)

c). Worship God in the church with perfect Bible doctrines based on New birth, Holiness and the Law of the Spirit in Christ. The church that teaches the Word of God, under the inspiration of the the Spirit, cannot advocate alcoholism, the Holy Spirit, who controls spiritual chaos will brood on the heart of men (Gen. 1: 1-2).

d). Orderly marriage in the church should be a foundation of children upbringing. Many children learn more of alcohol from parents than from the world. Alcohol drinking destroys children from their mothers, wombs.

Paul writes to the family, with the objective to put things in order and make family members live a holy life before the LORD. Ephesians 5:22-25; “**wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husband in everything**”. In Ephesians 6:1-3, “**Children, obey your parents in the LORD: This is right. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth**”. In fact it is impossible for drunkards to live in harmony with the above stated scriptures. Most rebellious children are alcoholics in one way or another and they are a strong destructive force, called “Panya Road Boys” in Tanzania.

e). Close the doors to demons to enter unto the congregation of Christ’s believers (James 4:7 exhorts; “**Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you**”. It is possible to close the doors used by the demons to enter me church. And by the church, we

refer not only to the congregation but also to individuals. Paul writes; I Corinthians 3:16 **Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?** People in the church should be taught and be warned to take part in the all forms of alcoholism. Christians should run away from all activities that deceive them to take alcohol. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 6:14 **“Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousners with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?”**

(f) Bind the evil spirits and demons in prayer to fight alcoholism. The spiritual warfare against alcoholism is fought in the spiritual realm; a non-prayerful church is likely to lose the battle against alcoholism. The LORD Jesus said; **“Or else, how can one enter unto a strong man’s house and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man/ and then he will sorl his house”** (Mathew 12:29). The end times are difficult for the church of Christ; few believers are now attending midweek services and they no longer fast and pray in Fridays. The church is neither hot nor cold. The battle against alcoholism is constantly being lost.

Jesus said. **“When the strong man fully armed (from his courtyard) guards his own dwelling, his belongings are undisturbed- his property is at peace. But when one stronger than he attacks him and of his whole armor upon which he had relied, and divided up and distributes all his goods as plunder (spoil)”** (Luke 11: 21:22, TAB). The strong man is satan and the associated demons, which induce people to be alcoholic. The power we receive from Jesus Christ by his Spirit is on our side to have a victory over alcoholism. Paul told the Colossians, **“Jesus disarmed the principalities and power ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them in triumphing over them in Him and in it (The cross)”** Colossians 2:15; TAB). He is sitting at the right hand of the father **“Far above all principality, and power, and right hand of the father “far above all principality, and**

power, and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come, and hath put all things under his feet” (Ephesians 1: 21-22).

We have the Spirit power to fight the strongholds of alcoholism in the church. Jesus has given us the power to bind the strong man and set the captives free (Luke 9:1-2, 10”). It is time to spoil Satan’s house and let the drunkards set free to see the glory of God in the church.

g) Self- discipline and Accountability

Self- discipline means staying away from the sin of drinking alcohol. The disciplined person understands the law of God, and does nothing which is prohibited by the word of God. Paul talks about self-discipline in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, **“Know ye not that they who run in a race run all but one receiveth the price? so run that ye may obtain”** every one in a race runs to win the prize, that’s why they are in the race we need to do resist the devil who seduces us to alcoholism and the associated sins; we need to be accountable to God(2 Cor. 5:10). In a relationship of accountability a person is not just responsible for taking care of other, praying for others, but he is also responsible for making sure his own life is free from the bondage of alcoholism”

(h) God will judge drunkards.

It is quite astonishing that many people do not understand that, alcoholism will be punished by God. Lack of this knowledge has influenced many to pay little attention to this sin. The Lord Jesus says; **“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time you hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness and cares of this life, and so the day come upon you unawares** (Luke 21:34). Paul writes; **“If a, man defile the temple of God him shall god destroy; for the temple of God is holy which temple ye are”** (1 Corinthians 3:17)

In Revelation 18:2-4 we understand that God will judge all sins including drunkenness. Paul writes to the Corinthians “ **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one way receive the thing done in his body, according to that he hath done whether, it be good or bad:** (1 Corinthians 5:10)

(i). Keep a watch and pray always

It is true that we must pray to bind the strong hold but we need also to be watchful to pray always. The Lord Jesus says, “**watch ye therefore, and pray always**” (Luke 21:36). Paul writes: “**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints**” (Ephesians 6:18). We need to stand and prevail in prayer always to win a victory over the sin of alcoholism in the church, our families and communities

(f) The nation prayer to change the spirit of Government rulers, policies and attitude on alcoholism.

“For though we live in the world we do not wage war as the world does the weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds”

The church is not only the key player in the management of alcoholism in the country, but also the government has its essential role to pray. The removal of taxes on intoxicated drinks, lowers the price of alcohol, and motivate many people including young children and the youth to be easily enticed into alcoholism.

The Holy spirit is saying to us in Tanzania “**turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your**

garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil” (Jonah 3). Alcohol consumption is tearing the country of Tanzania apart, because it has destroyed the majority people and mostly the youth. “**Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his, fierce anger, that we perish not**” (Jonah 3:8-9). There is still hope to turn teach, preach and seek God for the intervention to help the church and the country.

(i) The Purity and Blamelessness of the Servant of Christ serving in the church.

The ministers of Christ in Ephesians 4:12 are called by the LORD Jesus for perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry for the edifying of the body of Christ. They are expected to be ensamples of godliness, holiness and purity, to believers. Paul writes to Timothy: “**That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ**” (1 Timothy 6:14). Paul also writes to Titus; “**for a bishop must blameless, not soon angry not given to wine not striker not given to filthy lucre**” (Titus 1:7). For the church to be free of alcoholism the pastor the angel of that church, the elders, deacons and all the servants in the house of God should be blameless with regard to drinking intoxicating drinks. It was shameful one day when I met a teacher in the Bible College who was drunk. This teacher lost the respect of the class, although he was previously regarded a man of integrity by students. The prophet Habbakuk says; “**O LORD, I have heard your speech and i am afraid**” Habbakuk 3:20. Shouldn't we become afraid when the Spirit of God reveals the glass of the fermented wine; is “**THE GLASS OF BLOOD**”. What we see as the glass of beer, wine, alcohol to God is the glass of blood, how **AWESOME** and **TERRIBLE** it is. Therefore, it is fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

(k). A renewed mind towards the negative impacts of role alcohol consumption in our culture and society.

“Beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies in living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world. But be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2). When people by the Word of God and the sanctification of the Holy Spirit will have their mind renewed, their attitudes towards drinking alcohol will definitely change. For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans, 14:17).

Alcoholism the spiritual catalyst for apostasy

Apostasy is the defection. The first five verses of 1 Timothy 4 are a stern warning about apostates. Paul states in 1 Timothy 4:1 that some –such as Judas, Demas or the Disciples of Christ in John 6:41 -66. The Lord Jesus Christ pointed to the reason why the disciples fall back and went into the world. In John 6:60-61 61; 64-66; the reasons for apostasy are clearly shown. Many therefore of disciples when they heard this, said; **“This is a hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew himself that his disciples murmured it, he said unto them, doth this attend you? But there are some of you that believed not, For Jesus knew from beginning who was that believed not, and who should betray him”** .And he said, **“Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my father. From that time many of his disciples went back and, and walked no more with him”**. To date there are many of Christ’s disciples who no longer follow him and have found it hard to stop drinking intoxicated alcoholic liquors to follow Christ. The Disciples of Christ lacked an understanding of

the doctrine taught by Christ. And so to date many are lacking the knowledge about alcoholism and its associated trap of apostasy.

Paul was falsely accused of spreading apostasy (Gk. Apostasia), teaching Jews to turn away from Moses". The defection from Christian faith is also written in 2 Thessalonians 2:3;

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. This apostasy or rebellion ("failing away", KJV) when he Antichrist is revealed however, the scriptures show that there are many forerunners of antichrist already in the world.

"Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists, whereby we know that it is the last time" (1 John 2:18). The deceiving spirits of antichrists, do both oppose the doctrine of Christ and the Bible teaching on holiness and salvation by grace and faith, but- also deceives Christian to live ungodly lives including the consumption of alcohol. They claim that, Jesus Christ himself sanctioned drinking of fermented wine in Cana of Galilee (John 2: 1-11). The spirit of apostasy influences Christians to be hearer of the word without searching the truth in scriptures many believe in the dogmas of their denominations and not the scriptures.

The Lord of Jesus says; **"But are some of you that believe not"** (John 6:64a). The alcoholics do not believe Christ and His Word. The image of god in man should be reflected by holiness. In Leviticus 19:2; God told Moses; **"Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them ye shall be holy: for I the LORD YOUR God am holy"**. The apostle Peter stressed the need of holiness quoting, Leviticus 19:2; 1 Peter 1:15-16 **"But as he hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation. Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy"**. Alcohol intoxication is against God's demanded holiness on part of his people. The

apostle Paul exhorts the Romans saints; **“Let us walk honestly as in the day, not in rioting and drunkenness not in chambering and wantonness , not in strife and envying”** (Romans 13:15); to the Corinthians Paul writes; **“But now I have written unto you not to keep company. If any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner, with such one, no not to eat”** (1 Cor 5:11). Apostasy isn't an unintentional departure or a personal struggle with doubt it is deliberately abandoning truth for erroneous teaching.

“The faith”, refer to the body of Christian doctrine in an alpha and omega manner, not the act of believing but the act of believing and practicing. The Jews express the whole compass of things by aleph and tau, the first and the last letters of Hebrew alphabet; but according to the Apostle John, who wrote in Greek, he accommodates the whole to the Greek alphabet letters. The rabbins taught *“mealeph vead tau”*; *“from aleph to tau”*, expressed the whole of a matter, from the beginning to the end: So in Yalcut Rubeni, fol.17, 4: Adam transgressed the whole law from *“aleph to tau”*; i.e. from the beginning to the end. Ibid. fol.48, 4: Abraham observed the law, *“from aleph to tau”*; i.e. he kept it entirely, from beginning to end. Ibid., fol.128, 3: When the holy blessed God pronounced a blessing on the Israelites, he did it *“from aleph to tau”*; i.e. he did it perfectly. Our faith in the Word of Christ should be *“from aleph to tau”*. People who understand the doctrine of Christ outwardly but don't have a heart for God *“from aleph to tau”* are prime victims of demons and alcoholism. An apostate is not a Christian who never knew the truth but someone who knew it and reject it. Paul warned the believers, and in this case in order to shun away from alcoholism they were to keep not company with drunkards. Second Corinthians 6:14 **“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness”**. Many

people have turned alcoholics because of keeping wrong companies with drunkards. The seducing spirits from unbelievers being energized by demons, cause the falling back of true believers, who are eventually become drunkards. And this is specifically true for the youth.

The scripture in Hebrew 3:12; **“Take heed brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God”**. The evil heart is the result of an attack by the evil spirits and demons. The LORD said in Jeremiah 17:9; **The heart is deceitful above things, and desperately wicked: Who can know it?”** when the heart is attacked by demons and evil spirits cannot resist the consumption of alcoholic liquors. Therefore the scriptures further exhorts; In Proverbs 4:23 **“Keep thy heart with all diligence: for out of it are the issues of life”**: the submission of one’s life to God is an anchor to winning a victory against apostasy and the spirit of alcoholism. The scripture says; **“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you”** (James 4:7). To submit to God is fear His Word (Isaiah, 66:2), and the love of God is to abide in His Word, **“if ye love me keep my commandments”** (John 14:15). False religious, ministries and the various cults portrayed in the so called prophets and apostles are destructive in the body of Christ and a cause of apostasy and alcoholism. To live as an alcoholic is to live eating vomits. In Proverbs 26:11; says; **“As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly”**. To know the truth of God, and rebel against it because of alcoholism is considered as returning to eat the vomit. The apostle Peter also writes, 2 Peter 2:22; **“But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again, and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire”**. It is too sad for Christians to live as alcoholics turning to the folly and eating the vomit again. Apostasy is a demonic seduction, the false teachers who agree with alcohol consumptions among Christians are the agents of demons and evil spirits. Paul tell us that false ministers, like satan and his

angels disguise themselves as angels of light and become agents of light and become the agents of various religion (1 Cor. 11:14-15). The antichrist are strong proponents of alcohol consumption, John 3:18 writes; **“He that believeth on him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because believeth not is condemned already because he hath not believe in the name of the only begotten son of God”**. He further writes; in 1 John 5:12: **“He that hath the son hath life, and he that hath not the son of God Hath not life”**. To be alcoholics is to lack the life of God in them.

The outlook of Moslems on alcohol consumption

The Quran in sural Albaqara (2:219) teaches that their false prophet Muhammad, when first preached his believers, who were drinking alcohol, his god Allah, told him to first tell them that the advantages of drinking alcohol were far less than the disadvantages of drinking alcohol. The second stage of a Moslem in the faith of Allah, and in the teaching of the false prophet Mohammad grows to the second stage, in Surat Nisaa 4:43, Moslems believers are instructed by Allah and his prophet Muhammad not to worship Allah while they are drunk, because they will not understand nor hear what Allah was teaching them. However as the Moslem believer grows in the faith and the teaching of his prophet Muhammad grows and attains the third stage of faith maturity in the Quran, according to Surat Almaida (5:90) all believers after reaching maturity should completely abstain from any kind of alcohol or narcotics. Outwardly, the teaching of the Quran is correct because it is teaching abstaining from alcoholism, but it is a canal system which is incapable of healing the heart, to make a person abstain from alcohol or narcotics without the influence of harsh Sharia laws. Finally, the conclusion is that the Quran teaches abstinence from alcohol and yet use cruel methods of punishing offenders by using corporal punishments including killing the offenders.

Faith and stedness in the word

Scripture often exhorts the church to expose false teaching and especially the evil effects of alcoholism. Many churches in the name of increasing the number of believers and preservation of the church's income, want to forget and avoid being critical on alcoholism, most emphasis is put on doctrines for prosperity and methods of getting riches as the main church doctrine. The danger of apostasy is vividly exposed; 1 Timothy 4:1-5; **“some shall depart from the faith”**. The heart of our Lord Jesus Christ is in pain; it bleeds flesh blood; as good believers, backslides because of alcoholism and eventually dies in that sin. As i am writing this thesis my heart is also paining for i know quite a number of people who have left the church, and went into the world because of alcohol some were good ministers, but fell into the apostasy trap, and died either as drunkards or fall victims of accidents caused by drunkenness. Hebrews 6:5-6 gives a dark picture to those falling into apostasy; apostasy, **“And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come. If they shall fall away, to review them gain unto repentance, seeing they crucify to themselves the son of God afresh and put him to an open shame”**. Alcoholism on part of Christians is shaming Christ. In First Kings 11:1-4, a description of the heart of Solomon turning from God is vividly potrayed;

“But King Solomon loved many strange women, together with daughter of pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hiltites of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel. Y e shall not go to them, neither shall they come in unto you: For surely they will turn your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundres wives princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives

turned away his heart after other gods and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father”.

In the latter time apostasy will be open and the church has to be watchful, with regard these evil false doctrines including the acceptance of alcohol. I Timothy 4:1 **“Some shall depart from the faith”**. Paul teaches about the enemies of the church and equips the church to stand firm; in 2 Corinthians 10:3-4; **For though we walk in the flesh we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pullig down of strong holds,);** To the Ephresians 6:12; **For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers of the darkness of this world against spiritual; wickedness in high places”**. The war against alcoholism is spiritual. We should be watchful to teach Christians of all the avenues the enemy is using to cause rebellions in the church. Ephesian elders are exhorted; **“I know this, that after my departure shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock also of your own selves shall men arise speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them”** (Acts 20:29-30). We can turn away the disciples through teaching them wrong Biblical doctrines. A postasy is as Old as the devil himself; Isaiah 14:12-13; **“How are thou follen from heaven O Lucifer son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground which didst weaken the nations? For thou hast said in thine hearts, I will ascend into heaven; I will exact my throne above the stars of God. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation”**. The fall of Satan came to forment alcoholism.

Joshua knew by the Spirit of God that, the nation of Israel was to fall victim of apostay, despite their outwardly claim to follow the LORD (Joshua 24:14-16, 19). Likewise most of us in churches have an outward fear of God which is not heartfelt.

“Now there fore fear the lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth and thut away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood. And in Egypt, and serve ye the LORD. And if it seen evil unto you to serve the lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house we will serve the LORD. And the people answered and said God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods. And Joshua said unto the people ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is a holy God, he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor you sins”. The scriptures in the Old Testament talk about Israel’s apostasy, both as individuals and as the nations. They were not having a true and perfect heart of God (Rom. 2:28-29).The alcoholics have no perfect heart of God. God fore knew that his people will depart from following him in the Old Testament (Dent 13:12-15; 32:15-18, Dan 8:23-25).

It is the time for action now to fight against apostasy and alcoholism in the church. God honored even the Gentiles who refused to make alcohol drinking as part of their life. In the scripture;

Jeremiah 35:2, 5-6, 8, 13-14 **“Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers and give them wine to drink. And I set before to sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full o wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine. But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, ye shall drink nowine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever: Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that hath charged us to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters**. The Rechabites were not influenced by the surrounding tribes of Canaan, to turn away their obedience to the law of their father but Israel failed. In (Heb. 3:12). The scripture is

warning us strongly to be watchful and guard against falling away from the living God. In Hebrews 12:25; “**See that ye refuse not him that speaketh: for if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven**”. All alcoholics have turned against him who speaketh from the heaven.

The church a special people of God

But ye are a chosen generation a royal priesthood a holy nation a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the out of darkness into his marvelous lights (1 Peter 2:9). The chosen people should shun away from alcoholism. The church is composed of people set apart by God for accomplishing God’s will in the world through Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The ekklesia of Christ is viewed in many aspects in the New Testament a series of a picture of the church is employed including the saints (1 Cor. 1:2); the elect (2 Tim. 2: 10); disciples (Acts 11:26); the elect (2 Tim. 2:10); disciples (Acts 11:26); believers or faithful (Acts 5:14; Col 1:1) ;Servants or slaves (1 Pet. 2:16); kingdom (Col. 1:13); priesthood (1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10); a holy city (Heb. 12; Rev. 21-22); a holy nation and people (1 Pet. 2:9-10) a family or household (1 Tim 3:15) a field; (1 Cor. 3:5,9) and a body (Col 1:23).

The church is the house of prayer of God (Isa. 56:7). The church is also a family of God; the church is the heritage of the Lord (Joel 2:17). The spiritual characteristics of the church in no way cannot accommodate alcoholism.

THE ALCOHOLICS IN THE MIRROR OF THE PSYCHOLOGISTS

The original human nature with which the psychologist is concerned, consists, first of all, of capacities, such as the capacity to have sensations, to perceive, to reason to learn, and the like

and secondly of conscious impulses, the secondly of conscious impulses, the drinking forces to those activities without which the capacity would be non-existent. The basic of the developed mind and character of man must be thought in the original and in born tendencies of his nature. But men are differentiated into two broad categories, wicked and righteous. To be specific why men ruin themselves through alcoholism?

Alcoholism is viewed as a symptom of an underlying personality disorder with psychological factors leading to the self –destructive use of this toxic agent. In the Bible there are two vivid example of self destruction which could be regarded as psychological disorders that caused shame to the victims Ahithophel David’s counselor was esteemed for his wisdom (2 Sam. 16:23), but became leader in the rebellion of Absalom, after having foiled by Hushai he despaired of success and returned home to “put **his household in order and hanged himself**” (2Sam 17:1-13). The betrayal of Jesus Christ by the kiss from Judas Iscariot (Mt. 26:47-49) culminated with son of perdition flinging the money on the temple floor to hang himself and to go

“**To his own place**” (Acts 1:25; Mt. 27:3-5). The self-suicide of Ahithopel and Judas Iscariot are described to fit well with the self-suicide of alcoholics. According to “**present hedonism**” all actions of man are prompted by the pleasure or the pain of the moment of experience. The pain of rejection and failure to achieve the desired goals for both Ahithopel and Judas Iscariot ended in self-suicide.

Man has natural goals, or its inborn tendencies to seek goals of certain types, all psychologists recognize the fact that man is a goal seeking creature (Gen. 1:26- 27). The hormic psychology recognizes instinctive action and instincts in man. Those complex activities are animal actions of the whole organism which lead the creature to the attainment of one or other of the goals natural

to the species which are manifested by all members of the species under appropriate circumstances in a particular adaptation. Thus hormic activity is essentially mental activity, involving always cognition, and accruing satisfaction or dissatisfaction in short, the hormic theory holds that where there is life there is mind.

The maintenance of psychological dependence on alcohol is seen as hinging upon a combination of emotional and physiological factors, and the end result for the alcoholic is usually oblivion or illness. God created man in His own image that means God imparted into man “**capacities**” those divine capacities are the source of innovations and power in man. According to the hormic theory there are two categories of capacities, on one hand; “**capacities**” for activities, and on the other “**conscious impulses**”. The driving forces to those activities without which the capacities would not operate. The “**capacities**” that are in born become immensely differentiated and multiplied in the growing child; those include capacities of thinking (of ideation) and capacities of acting of skilled movement all which are destroyed by excessive alcohol consumption.

Alcoholism is stimulated by strong childhood influences as a cause of excessive drinking and considered change of mood to be the most valuable contribution of alcohol to the individual to psychologist, this kind of alcohol drinking is a psychical act it is caused by antecedents, but the act is done without assessment of the future end results, because the mind is devoid of such analytical capacity

It is generally observed that some people use alcohol to excess levels when temporarily overwhelmed by some external stress situations usually of long durations. However, The Bible shows us the calamities of Job; in the Book of Job 1:1-19. Job was a man of a strong character and failed not to honor God in his distresses. So we read, Job 1:20-22;

“The Job arose, and rent his mantle and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged of God foolishly”. The observation that stress and depressions on the human mind cause alcoholism, is only true to those who have no foundation on the WORD of God (Mt. 7:24-27); but the faith and Holy Spirit filled people like Job will never engage themselves into alcoholism because of passing through trials and challenges in their lives.

In disorganized marriages, unfaithful wives might choke their husbands to distresses and thus to force them to seek pleasure in alcohol drinking. But, those husbands who substitute stresses from their wives with alcohol drinking are also weak in faith and the WORD of Christ. The prophet Hosea was married to unfaithful wife, but he did not turn to alcoholism. The scripture says; Hosea 1:2-3.

“The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD. So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, which conceived, and bare him a son.” The prophet as the servant of God looked at God’s WORD and instructions he never changed his life style because of the behavior of his wife. Standing on Christ’s foundation any married person has the power to win victory and remain stable in God even if his/her partner has backslided in any alcoholic lack volition, the act or power of willing or exerting choice, that which is willed, not by the self but by the society. The will exerts itself on the side of the weaker motive and enable it to triumph over its stronger

antagonists-while leaving the word **“will”** as the overcoming power. Paul wrote about the power to overcome antagonists’ appetites in Romans 8:10

“And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness” what the psychologists consider and treat to be volition, to the theologians is the power of the Spirit of Christ in man.

It has been observed that gross disturbances in pre- alcoholic life, with difficulties in adjustment during the early years manifested in relationships within family, in school, at work, and marital life lead to alcoholism to some individuals.

The parental instinct is the foundation of the family, the stability of the family is the prime condition of healthy state of society and of the stability of every community the parental instinct impels to actions that involve self-sacrifice tendencies and of heavy and unremitting toil on behalf of the children are a necessary condition of the continued existence and the flourishing of any society. The failure of the social sanctions to maintain the predominance of the reproductive and parental instincts shows itself in the forms of infanticide, pre-natal infanticides, sexes between men, and men ,or sexes against the natural use of woman, failure of respect for marriage, voluntary celibacy, restriction of the family and widespread of so called street boys. Lack of love for children stimulates the spirit of rejection which is manifested in form of suicide in form of excessive alcohol drinking; even at early stage of life. Alcoholics are characterized by a feeling of inadequacy; internalized fears of failure and deficiencies in social relationships all are operating forces leading to alcoholism. To psychologists people who live under the burden of failure are isolated by the society, and they are regarded to clothe themselves the garment of shame. Shame, in the full sense of the word, is only possible when the self-regarding sentiment has become well developed about the idea of the self, its attributes and powers. Then any

exhibition of the self to others as deficient in these powers and attributes which constitute the self in so far as it is the object of the self-regarding sentiment provokes shame. Shame is closely allied to vengeful emotion and, especially in brutal natures, is apt to be accompanied by it. Recently, (June, 2022) one man in Mwanza city, North-western Tanzania, a man killed his wife, by shooting her seven bullets, because the husband felt the wife had acted shamefully in their marriage. It likely the killer was drunk before killing his wife. But it is Important to note that alcoholics exhibit the denial character, most alcoholics deny the shameful acts they commit before their respective societies. The alcoholism in the eyes of the psychologist should be considered to be “**Abnormal Psychology**”.

Character is an important part of personality, and that the word stands in some sense for the organization of the affective and conative constituents of personality. The theory of character describes a well developed character as an integrated system of sentiments, a system that is a hierarchy dominated by a single master-sentiment and integrated by that dominance. A sentiment is an organized system of emotional tendencies centered about an object. The possession of the sentiment gives the man a strong interest in its object his mind can hardly fail to be much occupied with that object and therefore to build up some rich system of knowledge about it- that is to say, a large differentiated cognitive system. Alcoholics have reprobate mind, the mind never recognize the importance of acquiring knowledge of God, because an alcoholic live an isolated life and the life of denial. The alcohol impact on the mind of man among other thing is that alcohol controls eventually the emotions in man.

The sex instinct is also impacted by alcoholism. The sex instinct among alcoholism is another important psychological problem worthy of discussion. Like other instincts it is complex, innately organized, psycho-physical disposition, consisting of three phases each sub serving one

of the three phases that we distinguish in every complete mental or psychophysical process, namely, the cognitive, the affective, and the conative; three parts which from the point of view of nervous function and structure we may call the afferent or motor. The approach of the male to the female, presupposes an innate capacity to recognize an innate capacity to recognize the female, i.e., to distinguish the female from male to perceive her as different by reason of her recognition marks of sex. The innate capacity or disposition to recognize the other sex by aid of the recognition marks of sex is then, an essential feature or part of the complex innate disposition which is the sex instinct. In the current world of information and technology the sex instinct has assumed a new level of development; the level of destruction. The cognitive side of the instinct is played by both male and female alike women or girls behave, act in a pornographic manner to display the cognitive aspect of sexual instinct on the other hand sex has turned to be a commercial social act.

The sex instinct is as complex as the act itself in the current modern world. The male is endowed not only with the capacity of recognizing the female but also with the capacity of recognizing the female, but also with the capacity of singling out the entrance to the womb. But currently the male is not the key play maker, in the whole process of sex. Women are married to women, so are men married to men. This is a rebellious generation of the end time waiting for the judgment of God. But those changes in the entire complex of sex instinct in our societies have been catalyzed by the “**servant of man**” called alcohol. In both male and female the activity of the sex instinct is supported by a powerful impulses and accompanied by an emotional excitement, which means the process of fertilization runs its normal courses, waxes throughout, attains its climax at the moment of orgasm and then suddenly subsides. And the whole activity seems normally to be highly pleasurable in accordance with the general law that the natural and

unimpeded progress of any instinctive activity to wards in natural and end is pleurably toned. But, owing to the great strength of the impulse of the sex instinct, men and even women are liable to be swept away by flood of sexual passion, the restraints are low growing to lusts.

The perception of a suitable individual of the opposite sex evokes the impulse of approach and at the same time tends to bring about state of tumescence or turgescence of the sex organs which are a necessary preliminary to second stage of the process. The controlled it is called "lust". The Bible is totally against this kind of human behavior which in a way has led to sex violence, abuses including rapes. The general behavior of most alcoholics is that they lack sex love. Sex love is a complex sentiment, and in its constitution, the protective impulse and tender emotion for the parental instinct are normally combined with the emotional conative disposition of the sex instinct, restraining softening, and ennobling the purely egoistic and somewhat brutal tendency of lust.

The woman strongly attractive to man, resembles in many respects, both mental and physical, the child, the normal object of the parental or protective impulses. Therefore the sex instinct and the sex love are manifested differently. The sex love is a complex sentiment which involves instincts of self- display and self- abasement apart from the common emotional- conative disposition of sexual acts. Most alcoholics lack the sex love instinct because of their reprobate mind. Their emotions towards a woman are brutal and lack self restraint.

The cruelty sometimes displayed or in the course of sexual relations (The extreme forms of which are known as "**sadism**" and "**masochism**"); these manifestations seem referable to the instincts of self-display and self- abasement operating with abnormal intensity under the special conditions of the sexual relations. Those brutal, cruel actions are common when the sex relations are assuming a commercial nature.

In alcoholism families children might be attracted and displayed prior to all experience of sexual pleasure and to all knowledge of the facts of sex. The exposure of sex impulses before maturity is denoted by the terms “**sexual inversion**” and “**sexual fetishism**” both which are common because of the advanced information technology all which have contributed to pre-mature pregnancies and the high frequency of the so called unwanted babies in our societies.

The regulation of the sex instinct has been a difficult problem to date it is even more difficult and almost impossible because communication outlets of sex relations accessed by all members of the society from children to old aged people in the current information age. Sex instincts could and will only be regulated by the WORD of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to think otherwise is to think of the lost war. But the current generation and especially the youth has rebelled against God, and the Savior Jesus Christ. The church has lost the war against sexualism and most denominations appear to compromise with the sin of fornication. What will be the future of the church which has surrendered to alcoholism and sexualism? The answer is clear; “**the awesome judgment of God**”.

This is the new Biblical finding in this Doctoral Thesis. “**It is fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God**”. Let all us fear to drink intoxicated liquors.

A RE-NEWED MIND TOWARDS THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF ALCOHOL DRINKING
IN THE CHURCH, CULTURE, FAMILY AND THE COUNTRY

“**Beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies in living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world. But be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God**” (Romans 12:1-2). When people by the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit they will be sanctified and the indwelling power

of the Holy Spirit will help many people to do away with alcoholism. For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans, 14:17). There is no joy in drinking alcohol the true joy of God comes from the Holy Spirit.

Alcoholism is the fruit of a reprobate mind

The scripture says; Romans 1:28 **“And even as they did not like to retain God in their Knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient”**. The alcoholics are reprobate minded people who have rebelled against God and His Word and the saving work of Jesus Christ on the Cross at Calvary. A focus is given on man before discussing the reprobate mind. The scripture gives a vivid picture of man has being composed of three spiritual components. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23; **“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly: and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserves blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ”**.

The scholars of older generation understood the scripture to be a psychological statement and understood the Apostle Paul in terms of trichotomy: spirit, soul and body as distinct separable parts of man. But other thought interpreted Paul against the background of Greek dualism and recognized dichotomy of soul and body. The third thought has recognized that such term as body soul and spirit are not different, separable faculties of man but different ways of viewing the whole man.

Conscience

Conscience is a universal faculty. Paul speaks of his own conscience (Rom 4:1) the conscience of Christians (1 Cor. 8:1-13; 10:23-11:1) and the conscience of gentiles (Rom.2:15), the

conscience is the faculty of moral judgment conscience is knowledge shared with one's self. It is man's consciousness of his conduct as his own and his judgment as to whether it is right or wrong when Paul says, **I am not aware of anything against myself**". (1 Cor. 4:4) he meant that his conscience is clear it does not condemn him of having done wrong. Conscience is a guide or related value. One could have a clear conscience and yet be guilty of wrong in the sight of God. In First Timothy 1:5 and 19, Paul he links a good conscience with sincere faith. However, conscience can become seared (1 Tim.4:2) i.e hardened so that it is not a safe guide all this suggests that the conscience is not a guide that can lead to salvation. The reprobate mind of alcoholics could be renewed through the second birth and the subsequent regeneration by being washed by the water of the Word, the Blood of Jesus Christ, and the works of the regeneration of the Holy Spirit. Beside all of the above mentioned aspects of man the alcoholics are doomed in their reprobate mind if they will not an invitation extended to them by our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 11:28).

PART THREE

Alcohol consumption in Tanzania.

Alcohol abuse is a global public health problem and indeed, it is a public health problem in Tanzania. The population of Tanzania is estimated to be close to 60 million people in 2021, and the census was to take place in July/August 2022. However, the Bantu people constitute 90.9%. Muslim 35%, Traditional religions 13.2% , Hindu 0.1%, Christian 51% . The cultural diversity of Tanzania and her rich inheritance traditions that accommodate use of alcohol, make the country to have a high rate of alcohol consumption despite the higher number of a Christian population. Indeed some Moslems drink alcohol, because the outlook of Moslems towards alcohol drinking is pragmatic seeking a personal growth in Islamic knowledge before total abandoning of alcohol. The country's Islamic religions system is somehow not hard to believers as practiced in the so called Sharia laws as seen in other Moslem dominated countries of Iran, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. Recently we have noted the efforts of El- Shabab the Moslem hardliner, sect fighting in Somalia trying to infiltrate into Tanzania, first in Rufiji basin and recently in southern Tanzania, from the Cape Delgado province in Mozambique. These Moslem hardliner sects among other things influence the life styles of people including alcohol consumption. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) report in 2004, Tanzania is country with a high intake of alcohol per capiter traditional alcoholic beverages – rather than “recorded **commercial alcohol**” such as beer wine or spirit – account for almost 90 percent of the alcohol consumed in Tanzania (WHO; 2004). Traditional alcohol is both available and cheap for example TZS 400 or US dollar 0.27 per liter). And high in alcohol, making it attractive, and affordable to consumers

In Moshi region, the two main types of traditional alcohol are “Mbege” and “Gongo” the distilled potent alcohol banned by the government because of its alcohol content and purity level are unknown (Nikander. 1999). The “ Gongo” alcohol corresponds with what in Bukoba the Haya people in Kagera region call “ Kongagi”, the government of Tanzania had been imprisoning konyagi drinkers since independence in 1961 but to date “ Konyagi” drinking is still growing in use, and during the period of Covid-19, pandemic in 2021 especially the peak period in February/ March 2020/2021; most of the Haya were drinking the local distilled “Konyagi” as part of what they called the preventive and healing measures against Covid-19. Therefore alcohol use is a cultural, it cannot be controlled by imposing laws into the society alone. Alcohol use has negative impacts on the social- economic setting of the people. Local alcohol production is the source of incomes for women, in many traditional setting in Bukoba (Shayo *et al*; 2000). Alcohol use is a cause of traumatic brain injuries for patients referred at the emergency department (KCMC) in Moshi, Tanzania (Kaino, 2011; Casey *et al*; 2012). Alcohol use is harmful for pregnancy as seen among women attending antenatal care in Dodoma, in Tanzania the harmful effects include the following; research results show that pregnant women who use alcohol often have low birth rate, high infections of HIV/AIDS (Matunga Mpelo *et al*; 2018). According to research studies alcohol consumption was the cause of increased HIV infection in Kilimanjaro and Mwanza regions (Francis *et al*; 2015). It reported that alcohol use was higher among males (47- 70%) than female (24-54%) and the prevalence of alcohol use was higher in Kilimanjaro region than Mwanza regions. Alcohol advertisement and wide availability of college students contributed to more alcohol intake in Kilimanjaro than Mwanza. All what point alcohol use and abuse was a big problem to the youth in colleges.

Most of Chagga people access banana a substrate for beer making compared to Mwanza were the substrate for making beer are maize, sorghum, cassava and papaya fruits which are in short supply competing for food markets in the highly populated region. It is important to note also that individuals in Kilimanjaro have accessed technology for processing local beer commercially or adding value to obtain the required set commercial and food and beverage standards of Tanzania Bureau of Standards. Additionally; the average personal income in Kilimanjaro region is slightly higher than that of Mwanza and this is another factor which contribute to high intake of alcohol in Kilimanjaro region. Sad to say this is the region where alcohol consumption was expected to be the lowest because the region is considered to be dominated by Christians. But the Lutheran Church and the Roman Catholic Church the dominant Christian bodies in the region embraces and tolerate alcohol drinking, among their believers. It is quite common that heavy alcohol drinking has been part of religious ceremonies some of which are conducted in churches.

The country is losing a war against alcohol consumption. The growing diversity of political parties influence in the society tend to draw members using the bait of alcohol especially during polls; that political parties could not be used as instruments to control alcohol consumption in the country. There has been the relaxation of selling and freedom of drinking of illicit brews, to avoid upsetting potential and future voters. Politics at the local level influence and stimulates alcohol consumption even though at the national level there are written policies to restrict or prohibit alcohol use.

Tanzania has a wide diversity of local alcohol drinks, potentially in all 120 tribes in the country. Illicit and home-brewed alcohol is mostly controlled by women, so to many it is considered prohibiting local brewing is to cripple the economic base of women, as assessed in some countries (Laura *et al*; 2012; Benegal *et al*; 2005). But in Masai Land alcohol drinking is

controlled by men, and women do not access alcohol drinking. Drinking alcohol among the Masai people is controlled by the elders. The Masai have the most disciplined system of controlling alcohol drinking at family level indeed in the whole tribe.

The fishing communities, are a special group of people when dealing with the problem of alcohol drinking; according to research results there is a high prevalence of high intake of alcohol exposing many victims to infections of sexually transmitted diseases in Mwanza region (Kabamanya *et al* ; 2014).The harmful use of alcohol touch even the old people, 50 years and above, who through indulgence in alcohol use the elderly have been infected with HIV/AIDS in Shinyanga region (Mangi *et al*; 2014) Alcohol consumption was found to be the factor influencing domestic violence among women attending Antenatal clinic in Songea, in Ruvuma, Region in southern Tanzania. Further, the negative use of alcohol in public health, include the interruption of the treatment of diabetic patients (Donath *et al*; 2014).The uptake of alcohol among diabetic patients in the Kilombero Valley, in Kilombero District, was found to impare, the treatment of the diabetes disease. Some of the local traditional alcoholic brews include; **“Kimpumu”**-porridge like millets used by the Nyakyusa; **“Ulanzi”** the fermented bamboo sap, in Ulanga and Iringa; **“Tekawima”** a maize-brew from Ulanga. Banana wine with low alcoholic content called **“Orubisi”** is common in Kagera region. Also common is the Palm wine-the costal part of Tanzania, the pineapple based local brew **“Omnanasi”**; **“Orubisi or Amarwa”** has the alcoholic content of 2.5 per cent. However, local drinks are often contaminated consequently they contribute at destroying the human body considered to be the temple of God (1Corinthians 3:16-17). Different additives are added before to brews before local distillation to produce the distillate locally called **“Kill me quick”** alcoholic liquors. It is reported that some decomposed or decomposing human excreta was added to the substrate before distillation. The addition of

such dirt substrates to produce alcohol shows how alcohol, its preparation and use are all demonic in nature. The addition of decomposed human excreta was reported from Shinyanga and Bukoba. Some additives to local brews in addition include “**Marijuana**” and “**Ugoro**”. The toxic additives impact negative effects to the physiology of the body, destroying the liver, lungs, the heart and cause cancer disease. I wonder if the government was aware of such practices which endanger the health status of the society no wonder that our society is increasing being exposed to different unknown diseases. The roots of the perennial weed, *Imperata cylindrica*, locally called “**Sovyu**” in Kigoma region. The fluids from crushed sisal leaves were also used to make illicit brews in sisal growing areas. The sisal leaves have negative toxic harmful to human health toxins. The expansion of cashewnut “(*Anacardium occidentale*)” growing in Tanzania is associated with wine and cashewnut based alcoholic spirits production which in future, with sugarcane based alcoholic liquors will contribute to a large volume of alcoholic spirits produced in Tanzania.

National reported death induced by alcohol consumption

Incidences of alcohol consumption induced deaths of massive and national significance that touched political and international media have been reported in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and South Africa. In 2022 many people lost their lives in India because of high intake of toxic illicit brews. Alcohol is the slow killer but also is an instant killer like a bullet.

Gods and goddesses of attitudes’ towards drinking alcohol

The deities and idols worshiped by pagan people are complex not only in the ancient but in the current contemporary world pagan worshipers featured hosts of gods and goddesses. These deities were much like humanity beings but on a grander scale. They possessed the virtues common to humanity, but the gods were also untruthworthy, sexually immoral and often

displayed the least attractive of human traits. The Bible has a reference of pagan gods, their description and worshipers and their attitudes towards drinking alcoholic liquors.

The god Advammelech was worshiped in sepharvaim and demanded child sacrifice (2 Kings 17:31). Another, god Anammelech also worshiped in sepharvai (2 Kings 17:31). The gods demanded child sacrifice. These gods of Assyria were not concerned with human kind but had to be bribed or manipulated in the above or magic to grant blessings, demanded child sacrifice through fire. The gods of Assyria were also fond of wine drinking the words of Rabshakeh who was sent to king ezechiah of Judah, point to this important fact in 1 Kings 18: 28-32; the scripture say;

“Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the juses language and spake saying hear the world of the great king, the king of Assyria. Thus saith the king let not Hezekiah deceive you: for he shall not be able to deliver out of his hand”

Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying the lord will surely deliver us and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assdtyria. Hearken not to Hezekiah; for thus saith the king of Assyria. Make n agreement with me by present and come out to me , and them eat ye every ,man of his own sine , and every man of his own vine ,a nd every one of his fig tree and drink ye every one the waters of his cirstem. Until I come and take you away to a land like your own take, a land of corn and wine your own land of bread and vigeyards, a land of olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, the LORD will deliever us: According to The Rabshakeh Assyrians beside worshiping gods were also wine bibbers.

The Assyrians were worshiping many gods in 2 King 18:33-35, we have an affirmation of nature of Gods worshiped by ancient Assyrians and kingdoms they had conguered.

‘Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods of Hamath and of Arpad?’ where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?

Another pagan god in the Bible called Artemis was a many-breasted fertility goddess: called Diana (Acts 19:28). The temple and worship of Diana was common in all Asia, during the third journey of the apostle Paul which brought him to Ephesus. Conspicuous at the head of the Harbor of Ephesus was the great temple of Diana or Artemis, the divinity of the city. The temple was raised on immense substructions in consequence of swampy nature of the ground the magnificence of this sanctuary was a proverb throughout the civilized world of the Roman Empire in consequence of this devotion the city of Ephesus was called neokoros (Acts 19:35) or “warden” of Diana’s worship. There was a large manufactory of portable shrines, purchased by strangers and carried on journeys or set up in their houses by devotees perhaps Alexander the “coppersmith” (2 Tim. 4:14) was such a manufacture. The case of Demetrius the “silversmith” is explicit shrines and images were made of meteoric stone pretended to be Diana’s image “fallen from heaven” Also magical arts were remarkably prevalent at Ephesus. In illustration of the magical books which were publicly burned (Acts 19:19) under the influence of Paul’s preaching : There was also what is known as Ephesia grammata which were regarded as charms when pronounced, and when written down were carried about as amulets all political and religious characteristics of Ephesus were inscribed with Diana . The first seed of Christian truth were possibly sown at Ephesus immediately after Pentecost (Acts 2) The apostle Paul stayed in Ephesus of more than two years in length (Acts 19:8,9, 20:31) consuming the most important part of his third journey during which he labored, first in the synagogue (Acts 19:8) then in the school of Tyrannus (Acts 19:9) and also in private (Acts 20:20) and during which he wrote the

first Epistle to the Corinthians. The pagan Ephesians apart from worshipping gods and particular : Diana” were enslaved by gross sins; which the apostle Paul was remaining and warning the newly born Christians into the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Gospel to be aware of. The sins associated with alcohol consumption in the epistle to the Ephesians, included; **“to speak the truth not to give themselves unto lasciviousness, uncleanness and greediness”** (Ephesians 4:15-19) Paul went on to warn the Christians to put on the new man, and put off the old man, steal no more avoid corrupt communication, distance themselves from wrath and anger, clamour evil speaking and all malice (Eph. 4:29-31). All those sins are common among alcoholics. The Apostle Paul further warned his fellow Christians against the habit of drinking and being drunk were typically pagan styles of life with wine being slaved by intoxicated drinks, thus Paul warned his spiritual children to be rebelated by the Gospel to the newness of life free from corruption of drunkenness.

Ephesians 5:18 and be not drink with wine where in is excess but be filled with the spirit. This shows that the worship of Diana by Ephesians was not prohibiting intoxication by wine drinking.

Canaanites

The Canaanites worshiped many gods like many other pagans of that ancient period. They worshiped, Asherah, wife of Baal, symbolized by a pole. This is noted in 2 chronicles 24:18 and they left the house of the Lord God of their father and served groves and idols and warth came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass , the Canaanites were descendants of Noah and the people who came from him (Gen.10:15-19; 1Chr.1:8,13-16) canaan was a grandson of Norah the son of Ham (Gen.9:18,10:6; 1Chr.1:8); in genesis 9:22 Ham is mentioned as father of canaan; in genesis 9:24; the mention of Canaan as the “younger son of Noah” should be understood as “ offspring”

The Canaanites were the tribes which inhabited much of Palestine at the time of Joshua's leadership of Israel.

The Canaanites worshiped many gods and this fact is exemplified by the words of Joshua in his farewell speech to Israel Joshua 24:14-15, **Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in truth and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood and in Egypt and serve ye the Lord and if it seem evil unto you to serve the lord choose you this day whom ye will serve whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell but as for me and my house we will serve the lord.**

The land of Canaan besides worshiping many gods like Baal (Judges 2:13). Baal was a chief god of Canaan until the exile, the name baal is often linked with place names such as god Peor. Baal (the god) refers to the old Semitic storm or rain god the fertility god of the Canaanite people who was a chief antagonist with Jehovah for the worship of Israel. Different Gods were called the Baal of different regions Baal was one of a pantheon of Canaanite gods, a son of Gagon (Judges 16:21-30) and younger than El, who was king and father of almost every other god in the mythology El was challenged to deliver Baal into the hands of sea prince but Baal resisted and destroyed the sea prince.

Both El and Baal are pictured with the bull whose horns are worn on their helmet, a sign of fertility. Baal's wife is Anath and he lives in her in the open fields. Here he must contend with Mot the god of sterility the cause of drought and dry season. In regular sequence Baal is defeated and goes underground. Anath however attacks Mot, hacks and grinds him up and scatters him on the fields, Baal returns and enters his throne (1 Kings 14:23, 24)

Baal's altars were present in Israel in the time of the judges othnielm(Judges 2:13) and Gideon (Judges 6:28-32) Ahab married Jezebel a pagan and under sponsorship Baal almost suppressed Jehovah's worship in Israel with a climar context of power demonstration on mount Carmel (1 Kings 16:32,18:17-19).The worship of Baal did not kprohibit drinking of autoxicated wine otherwise Ahab could not have plotted to kill Naboth to annex the latter's Vineyard (1 Kings 21:19 ;2 Kings 9:26) Ahab built a house for Baal in samaria and made an asharah (1 Kings 16:32-33) .The Canaanites worshiped another god of destiny the god of fate called "Meni" according to Isaiah 65:11 as well as the god of luck "God"

But as for you who for sake the Lord and forget my holy mountain who spread a table for fortune and fill bowls of mixed wine for destiny (Isaiah 65:11, NIV)

There is nothing better for a man than that he should eat and drink,and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour.This also I saw that it was form the hand of god.

Ecclesiastes 3:13 And also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labour it is the gift of God. Eccelesiasstes 4:1 wherefore I praised the dead which are already dead more than the living which are still alive. Ecclesiastes 8:15 Then a commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, Than to eat and to drink and to marry for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life which God giveth him under the sun. Ecclesiastes 9:7 Go they way eat thy bread with joy and drink they wine with a merry heart for God now accepteth thy works .Solomon under the influence of the religious cults of his foreign wives (1 Kings 11:1-8) lost the true fellowsehip of God and wondered in the world of nature, and lustiful satisfaction to seek peace but all were in vain. The advocation of wine drinking as a means of seeking heart felt joy is not theologically correct. The Book of

Eccelesiastes has no Biblical doctrines found in other books of the Bible because author had departed from the true worship of God.

Babylonians

The babylonians are importance in the study of the Bible and Israel Babylon {Gr for Herb. Babel} name of the city and country which played an important role in old testament and Israel hidstroy is used symbolically in the New Testament as the great opposite or enemy of the Heavenly Jerusalem (Rev 17: 5) The term Babylon applied to the country refers to the alluvial area the Gulf up to Tigrus to the zangros mountains. The southern part of this territory is chaldes. The early settlement in Bbylonia were in the southern cities such as Ur, Lars, Eridu, and Uruk, then in group, towards the centre near Nipput, and later in Babylon , Borsippakish, and Sipar further north the earliest people are called Sumerians, and closely related to the Assyrians. The early language is Sumerian, then the old Semitic dialect Akkadia. Babylon was a land of many gods. Little is know about Abram's early faith. But as a man who belonged to the culture, children may have worshiped many gods. Joshua remained at those beliefs when he asked his people in Canaan to a put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River (Euphrates) and in Egypt (Joshua 24:14)

The religious beliefs during Abram's time about 19th century B.C were built on those Sumerian civilizations. Such borrowing from other religions was common. When invaders congued a nation they often took over the existing gods and goddesses, remaned them, and added them to their own pantheon. Thus the Sumerian moon god, Nanna, the fertility goddess, Inanna, and the sun god, Utu, among others, kept their Importance when the Babylonians took power, and were nenamed respectively, sin Ishtar, and Shamash. The Babylonians religion gave good measure of respect for the gods, and provided guidancxe and rules to live by honoring those gods their

beliefs were based on nature worship, with a god or goddess representing each element such as rivers hills and trees. The gods were assigned differing ranks, depending on their influence and importance. At the top of the hierarchy, were gods representing heaven air water and earth. Among the semitic Canaanites the chief god, el was followed in the hierarchy by Baal and and A starte who were linked to the forces of nature, and like nature itself, had the power to desroy and Greate at the height of the reign of Babylonian Empire the chief good, Marduk ea worshiped also called Bel.

The gods of Babylon and the particural the chief god “Marduk “did not prohibit the worshippers from drinking intoxicating wine. The Bible gives ample evidence of pagan Babylonian kings drinking wine to the extent of being drunk.

Nehemiah 2:1 and it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king that wine was before him: and I took up the wine and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence.

Daniel 5:1-4, shows the wine drinking was common in the pagan kingdom of Babylon. Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. Belshazzar whiles he tasted the wine commanded to bring the golden and silver versels which his father Nehuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem, that the king, and his princes his wives, and his concubines, might drink there in. Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem, and the king and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank from them. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and of silver of brass, of iron, of wood and of stone

Greeks

The Greeks worshiped many gods, they worshiped, castor and Pollux (Acts 28:11), these were considered to be the twin sons of Zeus. While Zeus was a chief god in Greek pantheon (Acts 14:12). The Greeks were among the first believers in the church at Coriath. The city had the reputation for sexual excess, and drunkedners. First corinthians 5:1 it is reported commonly tht there is fornication among you, and such formiction as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that on should have his father's wofe. The church members at Corinth were also wine bibbers.. This was on old man that was stile operational from thir former conduct of worshiping pagan gods. Paul writes of the young Christian conduct in First Corinthians 11:21 **for in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunk.** The pagan Greek gods did not prohibit their worshipers to drinks intoxicated wine and the like.

Ammonites

The Ammonites were mount dwellers one of the chief nations possessing Canaan before the conquest. The Amorite was a descendant of Canaan grandson of Noah (Gen 10:16). The Biblical location of the Amorites was the wilderness region west of the Dead sea at En- gedi (GEN 14:7),. From where they stretched west to Hebron (Gen 14:13).They were reported by joshua's pies as living " in mountains" (Numbers 13:29, Joshua 5:1, 10:6,11:3; Dent 1:7, 20, 44): Israel encountered them againg in the region southern of jabbok, from which they had driven Moab (Num 21:13). Sihon, their king refused Israel passage and was defeated and his territory taken (Num 21:21; dent 2:26, 32-33). The land of the AQmorite was that between the jabbok and the Arnon, but iot was said to include all Gilead and Bashan (Dent 3:10), and extended to Hermon (Dent 10:5, 11:3). The Ammonites worshiped their god molech, according to Zephaniah 1:5 and them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops. And them that worship the host of

heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by malchan. The worship of malchan was associated with child sacrifice. The ammonites also worshiped Milcon another name for Molech (Acts 7:43).

Molech a deity worshiped by the children of Ammen (1 Kings 11:7) and Second King 23:10 indicates that human sacrifice was made to this deity, especially in the valley of Hinnom, which borders Jerusalem on the southwest. Moses' law prohibited offering of children "Though the fire to Molech (Lev 18:21, 20:1-5). Ahaz burned his children in Hinnom (2 Chronicles 28:3) and King Manasseh made at least one of his sons pass through the fire (2 Kings 21:6). During Moses' and Joshua's times the land of Canaan was already dominated by the cultivation of vines, likely the gods of the area, including those of the Ammonites, did not restrict people to drinking intoxicating wine, because the grape yield was an indicator of the blessing of the land.

Numbers 13:23-24 and they came unto the book of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes and they bare it between two upon a staff, and of the figs the place was called the book of Eshcol, because of the cluster of Israel cut down from thence.

Assyrians

The empire emerged from the Fertile Crescent between the Tigris/ Euphrates valley. Trade had its place in the Assyrian Empire, warfare was an essential aspect of the Assyrian way of life. Annual campaigns were launched, not so much to add lands to the Empire as to seize the wealth and captives needed to carry out the complex projects for grandiose building plans for rulers, who constructed great palaces to celebrate their victories. The kingship dominated every aspect of Assyrian life and thinking and rules were considered sacred. The Assyrians worshipped a variety of gods and goddesses, these were thought of as kings who lived in their temples. Gods were more concerned with the king than with individuals and thus the private person had little contact with

the gods. The Assyrian's primitive medical treatment relies heavily on magic and incantations. There was heavy use of alcohol, naming a great variety of beers and wines. Drunkenness was a severe social problem, prostitution flourished, and sex was practiced openly in streets and parks, as well as in the privacy of established brothels called "Places of pleasure" The Assyrians worshiped Rimmon. The god of thunder, lightning and rain (2 Kings 5:18).

The fact that the Assyrians were great wine Bibbers is shown in the Book of Esther 1:1-9

Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus (This is Ahasuerus which reined, from Indian unto Ethiopi, over an hundres and seven and twenty provinces). That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in shushan the palace in the third year of his princes and his servants; the power of peesia and media the nobles and princes of the princes being bfore him: when he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days and when these days were expired the kig made a feast unto all the people that were present in shushan th palace both unto great and small, seven days, in the count of the garden of the king's place: where were white green and blue, hangings, fastered with cords of fine liner and purpule to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gods and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue and white, and black, marble

And they gave them drink in vessels of gold (The vessels being diverse one from another) and royal wine in abundance, according to the state of the king. And the drinking was according to the drinking was according to the law; none did compel for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house that they should do according to every man's pleasure. Also Vasht, the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus. It is vividly clear that this pagan kingdom was characterized by heavy drinking of intoxicating wine

from the palace of the king himself. The gods were worshiped on the backdrop of taking alcohol. Alcohol drinking was more like the nation law. The affluent kingdom spent her resource on alcohol for her citizens. Atheism is strongly linked with heavy consumption of intoxicating wine many centuries before Christ in history.

India is the origin of Hinduism a religion complex for its worshipers in true sense they have to deal with more than 33million gods, the growth of hindusm is thought to originate in the Vedic age from 1500 B.C to 600 B.C the Indo – Aryan people migrated from Mesopotania And the fertile crescent . the migration is likely due to the emergence of powerful Assyrian and Babylon kingdoms and these people being weak without a political or society organization they had to move out the fertile crescent of Mesopotania .They settled in the North West India , creating the civilization of India .however it is important to note that they were already influenced by the culture of many gods in Mesopotania ,so as they moved and migrated ,the challenges in life made them to add a number of deities for worshipping in anticipation to have control over the obstaches of nature and life. The stanch Hindus have wide selection of gods they can be pantheist's polytheists, monotheist's atheist, dualits plurahists or monist. They abside by the rulers of their caste and trust that by so doing they will encounter a better and happier next birth.

The gods of nature dominate, the worship of hindus these include Indra the god of storms; Vrita, the drought dragon, Rudra, the god of the mountain, Vaye the god of wind, Ushan the god of the drawn.All of these gods have sore specifics traits with the monsoon climate of North west Indian which impact the lives of people. Despite the complex of religions worship of Hindus do not agree with alcohol consumption most Hindus are against alcohol dinking. But this act of refusing alcoholism is more of the the moral law developed under the Indian civilization and it is

unlikely to be associated with the 33 million god that are worshiped. Most Hindus think of god as residing within him as the impersonal god who needs an ideal devotion and this kind of devotion can be possible with the sober mind, which is not disturbed with wine intoxication. With one billion worshipers Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world the religion has no founder no doctrine, and has no unified set of beliefs and no single teaching but it survives and grows to many other actions a part- from India, growing its impact and the deceiver Satan continues to draw many people to perdition through Hinduism.

Islamic is a monotheistic religion of the world, which came in place after the Lord Jesus Christ finished his ministry in 650 A.D., the principal Muslim creed there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet. Islamic theology teaches that Allah is supreme the creator of all things they claim Allah to be eternal, omniscient and omnipotent. This character of Allah, Muhammad might have borrowed it, from people with the Jewish background and Christian who were moving between Jeddah and Arabia, about 650 A.D. Arabians prior to Muhammad were very idolatrous and are still idolatrous to date under the umbrella of worshipping one creator Allah. Arabians had a concept of a creator before Muhammad. According to Muhammad alcohol control and management inside the believers was threefold. The first stage was written in the Quran, Surat Al-Baqara (2:219); in this doctrine the use of alcohol had little advantages but much disadvantages. The second stage for alcohol management among the believers was in Surat Nisaa (4:43) Allah prohibited a drunkard person to worship him, because drunkard worshipers could not understand or hear the prayer. The third stage in alcoholism management is found in Surat Al-Ma'ida (5:90) The Quran in that Surat prohibits completely the use of alcohol for all nature for Muslims. It is clear that Hindus and Islam prohibits alcohol drinking the gods of Muhammad and the Quran prohibits the use of alcohol.

WILL CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCE ALCOHOLISM?

I have addressed the question that alcohol consumption is as old as the history of man. The first husbandry of men was agriculture in Genesis 2:8 and the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden: and there he put the man whom he had formed. The task of man given to man from the Lord God for the Garden of Eden was to dress it and to keep it (Gen 2:15). After the fall of man the Lord God chased man from the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:23). The biodiversity of the land changed after the fall of man so was the land fertility as the curse of the Lord God to the land (Gen.3: 17-18). The sins of men grieved the heart of the Lord God that he repented to have formed man and consequently the Lord God destroyed the men and all the creation (Gen.6). But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord, that he survived the destruction. After the floods, the land was covered with a new biodiversity and likely the new soil fertility following the effect of water on soil. Noah who became a farmer and planted a vineyard drank wine and was drunken (Gen 9:19-21). Noah was the first farmer to plant the vine plant, since then wine drinking has been a part and parcel of men on this earth up to the present date. The sins of men have been growing as a mountain from one generation to the other since the generation of Noah. The New Testament deals with our generation and the last days.

There is one striking spiritual thing which the Lord God has done and is doing but yet the challenges facing men in the current world are not addressed from the Biblical perspective, they are only addressed in the secular world perspective. One of the most striking global problems of facing this generation is climate change.

In Hebrews 12:26 the Bible says; **“whose voice the shook the earth; but now he hath promised saying yet once more I shake not the earth only but also heaven?”** The shaking of the heaven and the earth include the current global problem of climate change facing every

nation and individuals. The warming of human induced climate change and ever increasing gas emissions is land and clear and constitute the shaking of the earth as a warning from the Lord as the result of the corrupted man mismanaging the earth because of is selfishness, greedy and lack of fear of God. The world has undertaken various global initiatives to address climate change (Copenhagen climate summit, 2009; Glasgow climate summit, 2022).But, all these initiatives appears to be a drop of water into the ocean. Scientists show that emissions from forest degradation are the primary cause of climate change (Lambin *et al.*, 2003; Goltz, 2009). The climate change has negative impacts to the socio-economic status of the developing countries; especially through the reduction of soil fertility, crop fields, water resources and labour productivity. The major food crops like barley, maize, sorghum, banana rice, cassava, wheat and sweet potatoes have been impacted by climate change either through increased diseases and pests or through high temperatures and the depletion of water resources.

The climate change impacts the resources and substrates for alcohol production. Maize, sorghum and banana have been the potential sources of alcohol production under indigenous systems in Africa indeed in Tanzania.

The question to be asked is “can climate change reduce the number of people engaged in alcohol consumption?”

The answer may be Yes and No.The Yes answer address the fact that the substrates for alcohol like the grains will be reduced in production. The No answer is that the advanced knowledge and the satanic forces behind alcoholism will never free the victims of alcohol drinking. Alcohol production is also induced by Satan and it is dynamic to fit the existing conditions of the people. There might be a high competition between food and alcohol production but alcohol is often

produced even in conditions where the source of its production is scarce, competitive with food by increasing the price.

I have been following closely; the dynamic nature of alcohol business in the local town during the current on –going war between Russia and Ukraine. This war has negative impact to the entire world all the economies of the world have been reported to have been hit by high inflation rates. Yet alcohol business is still attractive to business owners. Some have reduced the volume of the packages to sell their products at a small affordable volume. In agricultural fields low yield of maize , cassava , sorghum are common but yet people continue to drink despite the existing food scarcity . The problem of alcohol consumption is spiritual, a person might be poor, incapable of managing his family because of the little economic resources at his disposal and yet that person lives an alcoholic life. With the increased technology (Daniel 12: 4 “**and Knowledge shall be increased**”). The increase in knowledge among other things will innovate different kinds of alcohol sources including trees that are capable of surviving high temperatures like the cashew nut.

The climate change has been addressed more in the secular world than the spiritual world. The scriptures show pictures of the indicators of climate change impacts on man. Joel 1:10-12 “**The field is wasted the land mourned; for the corn is wasted. The new wine is dried up the oil languished be ye ashamed O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vinedressers for the wheat and for the barley; because the market of the field is perished**”.

The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree the palm tree even all the trees of the field are withered because joy is withered away from the sons of men “The Bible portrays the fact that the current climate change problem is the curse of the Lord God in responding to the sins of men on earth. In Deuteronomy 28:23-24 “**And my heaven that is over**

they head shall be brass and the earth that is under the shall be iron. The Lord shall make the rain of the land powder and dust; from heaven shall it come down upon fuel, until thou be destroyed". Some of the prolonged droughts in countries like Somalia is the fruit of rejecting the Lord Jesus; and the shedding of innocent blood in that country. But our scientists will conclude that droughts are only the result of climate change they miss the spiritual reason of describing climate change as the judgment of God to man. There is a widely recognized fact that plant pests have increased in fields because of climate change but these facts are written in the Bible; Deuteronomy 28:38-40, 42; **"thou shall carry much seed out into the field and shall gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it. Thou shall plant vineyards, and dress them, but shall neither drink of wine nor gather the grapes for the worms shall eat them"**. **"Thou shall have olive trees throughout all they coasts but thou shall not anoint thyself with oil for thine olive shall cast his fruit. All they trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume"**. The climate change appears to be the judgment of God in response to the judgment of God in response to the rebellion of the people on this earth.

In Haggai 1:10-11 **"Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew and the earth is stayed from her fruit. And I called for a drought upon the land and upon the mountains and upon the com and upon the new wine and upon the oil and upon that which the ground bringeth fourth and upon men and upon cattle and upon the labour of the hands"**. The judgment of God is taking the picture of withdrawing the rain. However, under climate change men and the properties are destroyed by other spiritual agents of judgment such as cyclones, floods earth quakes and landslides. It is often reported of men dying because of taking intoxicating drinks on empty stomachs. Extensive use of alcohol induced deaths were reported in 2022 in India, Kenya and South Africa. The psychology of alcoholism have been discussed in

the past chapters it unlikely that climate change shall reduce the consumption of alcohol without the new birth of the hearts of men as recommended by the Lord Jesus Christ (John 3:2-3).

PART FOUR

Recommendation

The consumption of intoxicating wine (alcohol) is as old as the history of man in genesis. The moral erosion of human ethics as the result of drunkenness is recorded in the history of Noah, Lot and his daughters, King Ahasuerus, King Belshazzar and many others as recorded in the bible and in this study. The current generation which is pressed by evil forces developed by the information technology age the world is like a village in which Satan is using the power of technology to trap people using many weapons including alcohol consumption. The following recommendations are worthy to be addressed

- (a) Pastors and all servants of God; should wake up, from sleeping and wage a flesh war against alcoholism, because the latter has killed the church of Christ.

Ephesians 5:14, 18 wherefore he saith, awake thou that sleepest and arise from the dead and Christ shall give light and be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with spirit

- (b) Alcohol consumption is the cause of grieving and subsequent quenching the holy spirit of God in the church.

Ephesians 4:30 and grieve not the holy spirit of god whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. **I Thessanianns 5:19** quench not the spirit.

- (c) The problem of alcoholism originates from the family; in many cases children adopt the habit of drinking from their parents. This has been exacerbated by the fact that many marriages are not founded on the foundation of the word of god. The exhortation of Paul in **Ephesians 2:20-21** and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,

Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto a Holy temple in the LORD: in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of god through the spirit. but the fact that is that most marriages and couples are living according to **1 Timothy 4:1** now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils

- (d) The miracle of our Lord Jesus in Cana of Galilee in which water was turned to wine was not an authoration of God to his people to drink intoxicated alcohol. The Theology behind this first miracle of our Lord was a metaphor that the people of God through Christ in the New Testament will be cleansed by the blood of Christ (presented as wine **Genesis 49:11, 12**). And those cleansed by the blood of the Lamb of God will take part in the wedding of the bridegroom Jesus Christ (**Revelation 19:7-1**).
- (e) Alcoholism is associated with more tha 200 disease in the body of man. Therefore, it is the sin which should not be under estatement as most of the people in the church are currently doing.

Deuteronomy 28:15, 20, 22 but it shall come to pass if thou will not heartken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes whichi I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee. The lord shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke in all that tou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doig, whereby thou hast forsaken me. The lord shall smite thhee with consumption and with a fever and with an inflammation and with an extreme burning.

(f) Alcoholism is associated with extreme acts of sexualism, and other associated sins as reported in this study. Alcoholic have little respect to their marriages. God expects his people to live allording to **Hebrews 13:4** marriages are honourable in all and the bed undefiled but whore mongers and adulterers God will judge. But because of alcoholism most people live according to **Malachi 2:14-16**. Yet ye say, wherefore? Because the LORD has been witnesss between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously; yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let non deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the lord of hosts therefore takes heed to your spirit that ye deal not treacherously many divorces among Christians are the result of alcoholism in the family.

Conclusion

Drinking of alcoholic liquors and fermeted drink is as old as the history of man in Genesis. However, the latter times of the church are experiencing the highest destructive power of the church. The church is losing the war against alcoholism. In the secular world alcohol is the trap for Africa, but in fact it is the killer of the church, society, and the nation at large. The Bible covers many aspects of alcoholism as a sin against God. This Doctorate Thesis is timely writtern to enlight futher the Ministers of Christ to pay serious attention to the problem. The Holy Spirit has revealed drinking alcohol is synonymous to drinking BLOOD. The Theology of Alcoholism is spiritual weapon to the Body of Christ. Alcohol drinking is both the slow and the instant killer like the bullet. The latter days, characterized by increased wickedness and advanced technology

have advanced and exacerbated the problem of alcoholism the second trap for Africa. The church has a lukewarm attitude towards alcoholism. There is an imminent judgement to all compromising with alcohol drinking and yet professing to be Christians and disciples of Christ Jesus. Woe to the church which compromise with the sin of alcoholism.

It was shameful one day when I met one person a teacher in the Bible College but this minister came to teach while drunk. He lost the respect of the class he was teaching we need hear what the prophet Habakkuk said; O LORD, I heard your speech and I am afraid” Habbakuk 3:20.

What we see as the glass of beer, wine, spirit, any alcohol beverage as God looks, the

“GLASS OF BLOOD”

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