They tell us that 90% of the highway and traffic accidents, -drinking is involved somewhere along the line, in the great majority of cases.

We know that Eabylon fell, there was drunkeness, before greece vanished, there was drunkeness, and it seems today that America is headed in that same direction.

There are different ways that we might preach on this subject) One way would be to show the fearful economic waste of liquor, the price the nation has to pay in the keeping up of hospitals, prisons, asylums, etc.

Another way would be to point out how this drink is a highway killer produces more accidents than anytother thing, and destroys the bodies of individuals.

Another way, we might bring in the court records the police records, the criminal records, and a great many of these records would be traced to strong drink.

But the way that we should think about it tonight is that which concerns a man soul. And we ought to emphasize how that strong drink rages and how many are destroyed through its power.

We can find ample testimony in the Bible of outstanding men who can give their experience to us concerning drunkeness.

We say its legitimate business. The liquor traffic is an enemy to man's soul.

WHAT ABOUT DRINKING?

Nov. 20:1

Intro

(Wapoleon) once said in an address to his soldiers in Egypt, "Soldiers, 40 centuries look down upon you." There are uncounted thousands of eyes that look down upon us in this city and in this state and in this nation, and in the coming generations, when we think about this matter which we'll discuss tonight.

The governor of California, Governor Knight, issued an order, when he was governor, saying that all state parties would be celebrated with cake and ice cream, there would be no liquor, that was definitely out. When we think of his decision, we think certainly it was a wise one.

For day after day, week after week, and year after year, liquor threatens to eat away a great deal of the economic gains of this nation. For in 1954 we spent 9 billion dollars on legal whiskey. When we think of all the stoppage of work due to strong drink, it seems that we can no longer be indifferent towards drunkeness, but many say "It doesn't bother me."

The Bible is not silent concerning any force which ruins the souls of men. The Bible again, strikes hard at Satan's devices. "We unto him that giveth his neighbor to drink, that putteth thy bottle to him and maketh him drunken also.

Habakkuk 2:15.

Luke 21:3h "And take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with drunkeness."

Romans 13:13 "Let us walk honestly as in the day, not in rioting and drunkeness."

Warnings against drunkeness are found in God's word from Genesis through the New Testament. This evil is exposed time and time again.

When we look at some of the facts, the first year of repeal in 1934 Americandrank a per capita average of over 8 gellons of beer, but 20 wears later in 1954, the per capita average had increased to over 16 gallons. We find that arrest for drunk driving has increased many many times, percentage wise. Within a 20 year period it increased 175 percent Evangeline Booth of the salvation army once said, "Drink has drained more blood, hung more crepe, sold more homes, plunged more people into bankruptcy, armed more villians, slain more children, snapped more wedding rings, defiled more innocent, blinded more eyes, twisted more limbs, dethroned more reason, wrecked more manhood, dishonored more womanhood, broken more hearts, blasted more lives, driven more to suicide, and dug more graves than any other poisonous scourge that ever swept its death-dealing waves across the world." -

The Bible puts drunkeness in the same category with other sins. I Cor. 6:10 "Nor theives, nor covetenus, nor drunkards nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." Any sin that will keep a man from inheriting the kingdom of God must be denounced, for the Bible says no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Rom. 13:13 says, "Let us walk honestly as the day, not in rioting and drunkeness, and in clamouring and wantoness, not in strife."

Our prisons are filled with people, men and women who have committed crimes in society while under the influence of strong drink. We know that the Bible says "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Prov. 20:1

There are many today who are drinking, and it is raging among teenagers as well as in the older sets of people. In one school in New York, it was reported that 90° of them were testing out strong drink.

What can we expect when modern parents have whiskey in the family bar or they keep gin in the medicine cabinet. Many fathers and mothers todaysspend their holidays, their picnics, their birthdays, their Christmases and entertaining their friends, just purely by tanking up on liquor.

lay sprawled out on the ground, naked, uncovered before his family, and two of his sons went backward with the garment on his shoulders and covered him up to his own shame. And I would imagine that Noah would tell you tonight, that because of that drunkeness, he would warn you that even though you stand high with the Lord, there is always that danger and that perib of strong drink, what it can do to a man's soul.

We think also of other noble men. We might call in a man like Solomon and he's a king, and ask him what he thinks about this subject, and he would say yes, I was one of the wisest kings that ever lived, and yet, not so wise in other ways, because I did not ask for long life or riches, in the lives of my enemies. I only asked God for wisdom, and God made me wise, and richer than any other king. What he promised he gave me wisdom, I wrote 3,000 proverbs and 1,000.

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He would say, I'm the richest and the greatest king, according to the standards of the world, but he would say that I brought in these heathen wives, and I built alters for them, 700 wives and 300 concubines, and they had heathen worship going on in my kingdom, and he would say, I fell and great

was the fall thereof. He would also tell us about this strong drink, for we will find no book like the book of proverbs which gives us the warning of Solomon's experience. And if you will turn to the book of Ecclesiastes you will listen to Solomon as he says, I made a great experiemnt ... to get at the heart of life and discover its true meaning, I tried wisdom, but I found it a of the flesh. I tried authorship and found that in making of books, there is no end. I tried architecture and built the house in the wood where the 300 shields of gold hung on the wall. I tried engineering, and built a fountain and a pool and reservoirs for the good of the people, I tried agriculture and set out gardens and orchards and trees, I tried husbandry, and had cattle, I tried music for entertainment, I tried gold, and I found this to be vanity. Vanity of all vanities. And then he said, I tried one thing more ... I said to my soul, I will try one more experiment, I will prove myself with mirth, I will give myself unto wine. And then we remember what he wrote. | Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whoscever is deceived thereby is not wise. Who hath woe, who hath contention, who hath babblings, who hath wounds without cause, who hath redness of eyes, they that tarry long at the wine, they that go to seek mixed wine. Look notuthou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth it color in the cup,

when it moveth itself aright, at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder. So Solomon would give us a message on drunkeness.

There are others that we might call upon. Think of Ammor He was the son of David, Absolem was his half-brother. One day while he was loafing and frinking in his palace, he saw beautiful Tamar. Absolem's fair sister, and his half-sister passing by, and he conceived a guilty passion for Tamar, Yet his concience warned him, but he had a friend and alas, how many have stained their souls and gone to ruin because they have the wrong kind of friend. If He had had a friend like David in Jonathan, or if he had had a friend like Peter in John ... But he had a friend, the wrong kind of friend, and the friend suggested to him how he might accomplish his evil desire, and after he had done that evil thing against Tamar, he hated her, he despised her, but it was not long before Absolem came along and discovered her lying in the road, and he comforted her and carried her to the palace. He was greatly outraged at what had happened, and he sought vengence. Two whole years passed by and Ammon was given the invitation to come to the palace to make merry with the feasting and drinking, ... at first he was afraid to go, but he went and everything seemed to be fine, so he began to

When we think of this subject of drunkeness, we might introduce (Noah to you, the son of Lamech, the grandson of Methuselat He would tell us how that he was born in a time and lived in a day when there was great wickedness in the earth. And God had a plan to save man and to save the human race from destruction. Therefore it grieved God's heart that he had to destroy the race. But Noah would tell you that the end of all flesh is come before me, God said, and God gave him directions to build an ark for the saving of his family, three sons and their wives, and he would say, I obeyed, men laughed at me and scoffed at me and asked me where the sign was. And God broke the fountains of the deep up, and the windows of heaven opened, and the rain was upon the earthfor forty days and forty nights. We remember also that Noah will tell you that he spent 150 days after that and before the ark settled on the mountain he sent the raven out that did not return, he sent a dove out that found no where to rest his feet, but finally brought back an olive leaf, and the ark rested on high ground, and he and his wife and three sons and their wives went forth, and he built an altar, The Lord was pleased with his sacrifice, but after the flood was over, he planted a vinyard, and with the first . ripe grapes, Noah would tell you that he made wine, and he drank and he drank and drank again and was drunken. Then he

the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah that were located close to his land that he had chosen. He was eager to become rich and great as Abraham.

right in Sodom, he just pitched his tent that way, soon his daughters married men of Sodom, and soon he was on the town council of Sodom, and soon he prospered worldly wise.

But God warned him and five kings captured him on one occasion, and Abraham risked his life to get him free. Then later 2 angels came and talked to him and told him that God was going to destroy this city, to take his wife and his family and flee. He hated to leave that beautiful home and all that he had there in Sodom, but God said he was going to destroy it and God raineddfire and brimstone upon that place, and he was not to look behind.

But Lot would tell you when he reached Zoar, high up int the mountains, he was afraid to go to anybody's house, so he lived in a cave, and his daughters brought him strong drink.

And soon Lot was drunk and soon he committed awful crimes with his daughters, and became the father of two sons, Moab and Ammon, and they in turn were evil individuals and enemies of God's people.

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drink wine and shouted with the rest of them. If he had not been drunk, he might have noticed Absolem, who was drinking very little wine, and suddenly Absolem stood to his feet and pointed to Ammon and shouted to the soldiers, "Their is the filthy wretch, smite Ammon." And so he felt two swords pass through him like a flame of fire, and he fell to the floor and all of the rest of the people left the hall, and there he was to die for his wicked crime, because he his drunkeness, and he would say, "Beware of drunkeness."

Let us call in another king Beltshazzar, who was a descendant of Nebuchadnezzar, and sat upon the throne in splendor and he was wise and the great prophet Daniel was in that kingdom and was his counselor. And Daniel, you remember, refused to est the king's meat and drink the king's wine. and defile himself with strong drink. However on one evil night, this king would tell you that he was having a great banquet with thousands of his lords and nobles, and their ladies and their wives and their concubines ... they were having a glorious time in the palace, eating and drinking, in pomp and power, golden candlesticks, cast off radience on the tables...the fountains of silver spray were around the banquet hall ... the intoxication of sweet incense. When all the guests had been seated and the concubines had taken their seats at the table, there was a great feast and then

the dancing women and the wine.

Then, he would tell you that he remembered that Nebuchadnezzar had brought down from Jerusalem the sacred vessels of
the temple of Jehovah, and in his drunken excitement, the
idea struck him to bring out those sacred vessels and use
them to drink wine from. And so they brought the golden
vessels, and there were shouts of joy because soon Jehovah's
sacred vessels were smeared by the drunken lords. As they
drank, they praised the gods of Babylon, the gods of gold,
of silver, of iron, of wood, of brass, of stone. And they
enjoyed their jokes.

But where now, is the God of the Hebrews. Suddenly on the wall over against this king, near the dandlesticks, he saw the fingers of a man's hand...the whole arm was not visible...but he saw and his lips trembled, his knees smote with terror...the holy vessel in his defiled hand fell. He could not understand. And so they sent for Daniel.

Daniel did not attend such banquets. Daniel was now perhaps 90 years of age. He comes in, this God-fearing man, in this scene of drunkeness, and he was asked to interpret the writing on the wall. God has numbered thy kingdom and finished it. Thou art weighed in the balances and found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and

Persians.7

Silence filled the banquet hall, Then suddenly, this king would tell you he heard the blast of a trumpet and the tramp of armed feet as the soldier of Darius came charging in as they were sent under the direction of Cyrus. And there was a clash of swords, and groans, and pleas for mercy, and the terror of that moment must have been horrible. Perhaps the king tried to get to his feet, but one of the swords passed through his fifth rib, and he fell down among the thousands nobles and their women, lay dead.

We ought to listen to what he had to say, because it was when he was drunk that he was moved to profane the holy vessel, and certainly drunkeness here is condemned in the Bible.

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We might call in Lot, the nephew of Abraham. He had a great companionship and friendship with Abraham. Through him, Abraham, he prospered, he had tents, and flocks and herds. But there arose strife between the herdsmen of Abraham and Lot, and his uncle said one day, let there be no strife, and we'll make a division of things. Lot knew that he had no right to take the best, but it was at the kindness of Abraham that he was permitted to do this. And so he decided on the plains of Jordan, and he went toward

that brings illness, a public nuisance, then the leaders of the city will go immediately to work on it.

against the moral fiber of the very being, and is an impeachment of the highest citiaenship of state or city. We try to enforce laws against this.

We are interested in saving men and we are interested in those even who deal in it.

You might ask Mel Trotter who was so entrenched in drunkeness that he sold the shoes off his dead baby's feet to buy another drink.

Christ will never ask you to give up something unhess he gives you something better in exchange. Yes, for giving up sin and the world, he'll give you the keys to heaven. And if you have him as your personal Saviour, your whole hearts' desire will be in a different attitude toward this subject.

What about drunkeness, Christ is the answer to this, and we should remember what the book of Revelation tells us, that God has put a stiff penalty upon drunkeness. Drunkards shall not inherit the kingdom of God. I Cor. 6:10

We often call our attention to remember Lot's wife, but I think tonight we ought to remember Lot...we ought to remember the great sin he fell into because of drunkeness.

Peter says, just Lot vexed and with the filthy conversation of the wicked and there was a day vexed in his righteous soul day after day, but think how he slipped into drunkeness in the cave. It seems that he's unworthy to be called even the Just Lot, and many of his descendents today are in this world inwhich we live. The enemy of the soul.

We know that not only the enemy of the home and the church and the government. How many times have we heard people say liquor is awful.

If you could hear a mother and wife say, "Sir, I have two children, one 8 and one 6...I've been a devoted wife, as I could to the man that I pledged my life to, but he has gone his way and wasted his substance in riotious living, and he is leaving me and the two babies crying for their father to the tender mercies of this pitiless world. " I wonder if we would mack that mother's cry and say to her, "Let whiskey alone, and it will let you alone."

Or if you could hear a mother's broken hears as she would say that her little child was slipping away, and that the baby's father would not stay sober long enough to bring money to care for it.

And yet we think how that God creates the home, and there's a father wasting his wages in drinking something that is a damnation to his body, his brain and his soul.

This is one of the greatest enemies to civilized government, and the tragedy is that it is put in the middle of elections and in government today, and all through this country of ours this great evil. We read the account of Bbraham Lincol) and his untimely death, It was in a saloon that a man said give me three strong drinks, for I have got a big job to do in a little while, and he went from that saloon to take the life of the president of the United States. Yes, we take the grain that could be put into clothes for people, we allow them to beg and look for this, and yet it is all, most of it is due to strong drink. What is legitimate business. Well, stealing is not legitimate business, gambling is not legitimate business, immorslity is not legitimate business, legalized whiskey is not a legitimate business. That is it that

What is it that gives this country prosperity. There is an old book that tells us without mistake the thing toousthat brings prosperity, "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." The success which comes at the expense of morals, and goodness and home and

all to a series of your

love and character go to success, but these things of Sodom which kills and destroys, dear friends, de not build a strong nation. President destroys and the strong nation.

President McKinnley. "Fellowscitizens, understand what you're voting for." They were voting on a liquor issue.

He said, "When you vote to legalize liquor traffic, you become a partner and a share-holder in all the woes and crimes and death-dealing horrors that follows that traffic."

The president of the United States had great logic, and you can't escape that logic. You might Bo your best, but I dare say that in all your wisdom in your thinking, you would ever come up with anything that would be an answer to that.

We are our brother's keeper.

personal liberty to take liquor away from people...that's the cry that people make all up and down the land, you're taking away their liwlihood this or that, but friends, evil has no right in this earth. Evil is an intruder, and it is our business to drive evil from the face of the earth. We know that if a pack of mad dogs were loose in this town, we don't look around for the policeman will seek the dogs as fast as they can find them. If it is discovered that in our water system, there is some disease

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Let us also remember in the book of Revelation, 22:17, he invites us to come, "whosoever will, let him come," and in (ev. 3:20) he says, "I will come in unto him and sup with him and be with him." What about drunkeness? It is time that we give attention to gambling, drunkeness and the like.

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