

Be ‘Beside Ourselves’ and Be ‘Sober’ Minded!

Sober: Not mad or insane; not wild, visionary or heated with passion; having the regular exercise of cool dispassionate reason; regular; calm; not under the influence of passion; Serious; solemn; grave.

Soberminded: Having a disposition or temper habitually sober, calm and temperate.

II Corinthians 5:13 - *For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause.*

- We can be beside ourselves, not because of ourselves, but because of all that God did TO us and FOR us – and for His goodness – and for the dispensation of His grace, along with so much more – the list is endless once you dig into that KJB properly, or should I say, rightly!
 - That is a great ensample verse from Paul: We can be so excited about what we learn and understand (*as I often get when I write these studies and commentaries*) that when I learn something for the first time – or when I finally realize I have been taught incorrectly and suddenly know the truth – **I can just be beside myself.**
- However, we must be sober minded *for others* to see the seriousness of the times.
 - When we realize the serious times we are in; the deception that is so prevalent; the awful situation that so many people have; the hurt and pain that many people suffer; the fast falling away that is taking place and how it affects people; the religious fakery that exists in all the churches today, the words of the Lord are almost in famine status; there are a thousand false bibles on the market, etc. we must remember and realize that **serious things are taking place.**
- Then there are those ‘modern Christians’ who think they should be just so joyful and ‘happy’ and ‘perky’ with their worldliness within the world’s manner of living, etc. don’t realize what really is going on in the world around them! They think being a Christian is just about loving everyone and being blessed because of being such a loving tolerant person!
 - **To them, life is just a bowl of blessings,** but we ourselves ought to know better!
 - They would rather just party hearty and have their fleshly and worldly fun while things continue to crash around them... and so their Facebook and Twitter ‘friends’ just keep on thinking that they are having a great fun and frivolous time in their own lives, too.
- People seem to have no idea what it even means to be sober minded – nor do they even want to be. They are not besides themselves because of God, either! They are just living FOR themselves – and that is quite a bit different than what Paul was meaning!

I Thessalonians 5:6 - *Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

- That is what Paul calls what other are doing these days – sleeping and dead! They need to wake up, as we did! He can’t be talking about the actual death of the dead because he is telling us to not be like them – asleep!

- I am excited to announce, we are NOT asleep, and we are not dead nor will we ever be, either! We have opened our eyes to the truth simply by rightly dividing a King James Bible and looking to the risen Saviour through Paul! We see the truth that is above religion, religions, politics, education, family existence, and from our own self from the days when we were asleep / and dead to truth!
- **Rom 13:11,12** - *And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.*
- **Eph 5:13-16** - *But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

With all that said, we can now look below at the remaining verses and see how ‘being sober’ should fit into our lives, as well as being beside ourselves!

I Thessalonians 5:8 - *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

I Timothy 3:2 - *A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*

I Timothy 3:11 - *Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.*

Titus 1:7-9 - *For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;*

Titus 2:2 - *That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*

Titus 2:4 - *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 love their husbands, to love their children,*

Titus 2:6 - *Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.*

There ya have it – a simple word study on ‘BEING SOBER’ from Paul!