

Q. What, then, was Paul's remedy for drunkenness?

ANS. The cure for drunkenness and vice was, to set up Christ's kingdom or Church on earth, where his laws should be followed, and his discipline carried out. In that Church there is no order to do away with wine. The use of wine in moderation is a matter for individual judgment. Society has no jurisdiction here; though it may at times and in places attempt to exceed its jurisdiction.

"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 a one no not to eat."—(1 Cor. v. 11).

Let Christian society avoid the vicious professor, and if he be not reclaimed, at least the young will have the warning, and we the satisfaction of following instructions. But a mock charity makes us fearful to follow such instructions; we have reversed them; and when a man pays liberally to his church, and is a prominent worker in it, we condone that which we have a right to overlook only in the non-professor. It is the great Protestant boast that we have our Bibles. Let us stand by them. Let us take *the highest stand* in this great question; and that is the apostolic stand. Paul did not call Timothy from a high stand upon this question to a lower. Our Lord and his apostles were moderate drinkers; the great bulk of the bishops and clergy of the Church of England from the Reformation, and the bulk of all Protestant communities till lately have been moderate drinkers; and, therefore, in being so,