

CUPS OF WORMWOOD, BITTERNESS, GRAPES OF POISON, GALL

The Hebrew word for “wormwood” is *lahanaw*. According to Strong's Concordance, the word means “to poison.” Its root word means “to curse.” Other passages use phrases like “bitter as wormwood” (Prov. 5:14) and “drunken with wormwood” (Lam. 3:15). This shows us that whatever this substance is, it is something bitter that people may consume orally, and it makes people “drunk.” However, it is not wine or fermented drink of any kind.

Pinpointing the precise meaning would be quite difficult, if it were not for the fact that it is usually associated with “gall.” The Hebrew word translated “gall” is *rosh*. (Strong's #7218 to 7220.) *rosh* is the **poppy plant**. It literally means “head,” a reference to the “head” of the plant -- its conspicuous red flower.



Poppies were cultivated in Sodom and Gomorrah, and apparently this was one of their main sources of income. We find in **Deut. 32:31-33** that poppies are called “the grapes of Sodom.” *“For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges. 32 For their vine is of **the vine of Sodom**, and of the fields of Gomorrah: **their grapes are grapes of gall [poppies]**, their clusters are BITTER: 33 Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.*

Matt. 27:34 *they gave Him wine to **drink mingled with gall**; and after tasting it, He was unwilling to drink.”*

The grapes of poison were referring to an opium drink or pain killer made from poppies. Also called the grapes of Sodom, or water of gall, wormwood, bitter opium derivative used to dull pain, from which heroin is made. It is what they tried to give Yeshua on the stake in Matt. 27:34 and what Jeremiah talked about in Jer. 9:15, and 8:14.

In Revelation 22:15 we find that those who deal in this drug trade will not be allowed into the Holy City. They are called “sorcerers.” The Greek word is *pharmakos*, from which we get our English word “Pharmacist,” or druggist. These will not be classed as Over comers.

The Bible often speaks of “the water of gall” (Jer. 9:15). This is the sap or juice from a certain part of the poppy that contains **opium, which is wormwood**. It is very bitter in taste, and it makes people drunk, or “high.” Opium was used to deaden pain, both mental and physical. They tried to give Yeshua some of this to drink (Matt. 27:34) while He was on the cross. It would have deadened the pain, but Yeshua refused it.

In the Old Testament, wormwood became one of the themes of the prophets to decree the people's false sense of security. Judgement was coming, but the false prophets were saying, “Peace, Peace” when there was no peace (Jer. 8:11). Spiritually speaking, the prophets and priests were using this drug to heal the hurt of Israel slightly, but this only treated the symptoms, not the cause. The nation had a brain tumour, and the false prophets were masking the real problem by just giving them opium, or wormwood, to dull the pain. Jeremiah was astonished at this, and asked in **Jer. 8:22** ***“Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?”*** Yah's verdict was that He would give them MORE OF THE SAME. If they wanted a drug, rather than the true Balm of Gilead, He would give them a “belly full.” **Jer. 9:15** *“Therefore thus saith Yah of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.”* Again, in **Jer. 8:14** *“Why do we sit still? assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the defenced cities, and let us be silent there: for Yah our Elohim hath put us to silence, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against Yahveh.”*

“Wormwood” and “the water of gall” (Jer. 8:14) would be their judgment for disobedience to His law. Their life would turn bitter as foreign armies would invade and occupy their land (considered to be).

Wormwood is the desire to do away with Yah's law (Torah) and follow ones heart instead.

Jer. 9:13-15 *The LORD said, **“Because they have forsaken My law** which I set before them, and have not obeyed My voice nor walked according to it, 14 but have walked after the stubbornness of their heart and after the Baals, as their fathers taught them,” 15 therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “behold, I will feed them, this people, with **wormwood** and give them poisoned water to drink.*

Deut. 29:18-19 *so that there will not be among you a man or woman, or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of those nations; that there will not be among you a root bearing poisonous fruit and **wormwood**. 19 “It shall be when he hears the words of this curse, that he will boast, saying, ‘I have peace though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart in order to destroy the watered land with the dry.’”*

Jer. 17:9 *“The heart is more deceitful than all else, And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?”*

Prov. 28:26 *He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But he who walks wisely will be delivered.*

Gen. 8:21 *The LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.”*

BITTERNESS

Let's have a look at where cups of bitterness are talked about in scripture so we can see the thematic connections. First we must look in the Torah to see where cups of bitterness were referred to. When a woman was thought to have committed adultery or if a man was jealous of his wife and though she may have committed adultery it was law that the man could take his wife to the priest for the adultery test. **Num. 5:23-28** ***'The priest shall then write these curses on a scroll, and he shall wash them off into the water of bitterness. 24 'Then he shall make the woman drink the water of bitterness that brings a curse, so that the water which brings a curse will go into her and cause bitterness. 25 'The priest shall take the grain offering of jealousy from the woman's hand, and he shall wave the grain offering before the LORD and bring it to the altar; 26 and the priest shall take a handful of the grain offering as its memorial offering and offer it up in smoke on the altar, and afterward he shall make the woman drink the water. 27 'When he has made her drink the water, then it shall come about, if she has defiled herself and has been unfaithful to her husband, that the water which brings a curse will go into her and cause bitterness, and her abdomen will swell and her thigh will waste away, and the woman will become a curse among her people. 28 'But if the woman has not defiled herself and is clean, she will then be free and conceive children.'***

These scriptures in the book of Numbers, and those following from Romans, Deuteronomy, and Exodus, are very prophetic and have multiple thematic connections we need to look at here.

From a prophetic standpoint we see that the people Israel and those calling themselves Christians even to this day have been committing adultery with other gods. The woman is Israel, who has become defiled and made unclean by idolatry. The priest Yeshua and the husband Yeshua had the people drink of the bitter waters and man has spiritually died because of it. Mankind has been found guilty of adultery (worshipping other gods) and has died.

For those who are truly in the marriage covenant and have repented (been born again and come out of the whores spiritual realm Rev. 17:5), Yeshua is the one who has come and taken the cup of bitterness instead of the people proclaiming to be His bride. Those who have repented before Yah and have prostrated themselves before His altar, have not died but have been restored as the remnant who will teach and preach the true Word in the last days. Yeshua took the cup of bitterness away from us. That is one of the reasons He had to come and die for us at Calvary. He had to come and die so the adulterous bride could be made clean again. Do you recall when Yeshua said **Matt. 26:39** ***And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."*** (also Matt. 26:42). When Yeshua said *"if it's possible take this cup from me"* that's what He was referring to. He knew He had to take the cup representing the adulteress (the bride) and that it would be bitter. He paid the price of adultery so the bride would not have to die.

When you accept Yeshua into your life it's as if you were standing with the people at Mt. Sinai in agreement with the wedding contract, the Torah. When Yeshua died He took the penalty of death away from us because of the cup He had to drink of.

John 18:11 So Yeshua said to Peter, "Put the sword into the sheath; **the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?**"

Matt.27:48-50 "Immediately one of them ran, and **taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink.** 49 But the rest of them said, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him 50 And Yeshua cried out again with a loud voice, **and yielded up His spirit.**"

Have you ever wondered why Yeshua died so fast? He died quickly because of the curse on the bitter water/wine He drank from in regard to the adultery test. The people Israel were guilty and He represented them. "It is finished".

Let's have a fresh look at this. **Rev. 8:10-11** (new Rev. 4:20-21) *The third (fifth) angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters. 11 The name of the star is called **Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter.**"*

We are told that about one third of the worlds eight billion population are considered christians. About two billion so-called christians will drink the bitter waters of their adultery. They have rejected Yah's marriage covenant and have been sleeping with other gods: Ishtar, Isis, Horus, Seb, Mithra, Je-Zeus, etc. In fact you could say that Christians have already been drinking this cup of bitterness, innocently, (being lawless), thinking that it will not hurt them. They are not in covenant with Yeshua and are already spiritually dead from the curse of the cup they are drinking from.

Now lets look at a few other verses that are thematically connected. **Exod. 32:19-20** *It came about, as soon as Moses came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing; and Moses' anger burned, and he threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain. 20 He took the calf which they had made and burned it with fire, and ground it to powder, and scattered it over the surface of the water and made the sons of Israel drink it."* Remember what took place when Moses had the golden calf gold ground up into powder and fed to the people proclaiming to be followers of Yah's word. All of Israel had to drink of the bitter water and gold dust after the golden calf incident. About three thousand died because of the curse of the cup of wormwood.

Deut. 9:21 *"I took your sinful thing, the calf which you had made, and burned it with fire and crushed it, grinding it very small until it was as fine as dust; and I threw its dust into the brook that came down from the mountain."*

Rom. 10:9-10 *that if you confess with your mouth Yeshua is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."* When you confess Yeshua is Yahveh with your mouth you have just come into covenant with Him even if you don't know the details of the covenant. When we first become born again this is what we do. We confess our sins and we turn away from the adultery we have been involved with in the world all our lives. It's all about reconciliation.

Before Yah makes judgement He wants to reconcile with His people. If we are innocent we have nothing to worry about, but once we have received the truth and not repented, Yeshua did not drink the bitter water for us (James 4:17).

Marriage is a commitment, a covenant. Love comes as part of that commitment. One should not get married just for love, but for a commitment. When people today have marriage issues, including the most common of all issues, adultery, they are told to go see marriage counsellors and psychiatrists for help. They do not go directly to the Almighty for help. Those who are His people should go to Him for simple guidance. In days of old the jealousy test was about putting the situation in Yah's hands rather than in the hands of counsellors and advisers.

Wormwood is the Invasion of Rosh

Rosh is not only the Hebrew word for the poppy plant, or "gall," but is also the ancient name of Russia. It is no coincidence that they adopted the color red, which matches the color of the head of the poppy. Rosh literally means "head," and their name was meant to signify that they were at the "head" of the nations, the greatest of all nations.

The Soviet plan during the twentieth century was to preach **peace**, while plotting to destroy us. It was part of their platform to deluge us with opium and other drugs. They said Christianity was "the opiate of the people," and their solution was to feed us with wormwood. The fact of the matter is, much of Christianity is indeed just an opiate. The Soviets were largely correct in their assessment of what passes as Christianity today. So God used the Soviets (*Rosh*) to feed us with wormwood just as He said He would do to a nation whose false prophets fed the people with religious wormwood. God simply raised them up to judge us for our sins.

The solution to our problem today is NOT to destroy Russia, but to teach the Church to "just say no" to religious drugs, the "feel good" doctrines that leave people feeling good about themselves while remaining in disobedience to His Law.

The approximate percentage of the global fresh water supply is 1%. The polar caps contain 2% of the world's fresh water. The fifth shofar judgement will effect .9% of the earth's fresh water supply. This number may seem low, but it is remarkably high when added with the percentage of water that is contaminated by the fourth shofar judgement. Many people take water for granted. We take long hot showers, water our grass for hours, and fill our outdoor pools with it. But in some parts of the world, like Israel, people fight over water rights. Remember the story in Gen. 26:17-22 when Jacob fought with his neighbors over the ownership of certain wells? The fourth and fifth shofar judgements combined, will effect over 60% of the earth's water supply.

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