BUD LIGHT AIN'T RIGHT

INTRODUCTION

On April Fool's Day of this year, the popular beer Bud Light announced its partnership with Dylan Mulvaney, a self-proclaimed "transgender" who is really a man, but pretends to be a woman in "transition." Nine weeks later, sales of Bud Light nationwide have slid 25%-30% as a grass roots boycott takes effect. The boycott itself is not one arranged by any particular interest group, but spontaneously engaged in by conscientious consumers throughout the country. It's a newsworthy trend that deserves our attention.

I. THE QUEEN OF BEERS

A. Mark 10:6

Transgenderism and transsexualism are sinful concepts because they deliberately intend to reverse God's order in nature, as it has been from the beginning.

B. Deuteronomy 22:5; 1st Corinthians 11:3-16

Cross-dressing or transvestitism is wrong, as the Lord has always, in the Old Covenant and the New, made clear that men should present themselves with a masculine appearance and women should show themselves feminine. That applies toward apparel and toward haircuts.

C. 1st Corinthians 6:9-11

Although "trans" people are not homosexuals in every case, they usually are, and that is behavior that will alienate one from God in the hereafter.

D. Psalm 1:1

When a producer markets its product to consumers using a spokesperson famous for nothing other than wanting to change from a man into a woman, that business, if it wasn't already, is walking in the counsel of the ungodly, standing in the path of sinners, and sitting in the seat of the scornful.

Accordingly, the company lacks the blessing God might otherwise bestow.

E. Acts 19:23-27

When Paul preached against idolatry in Asia, silversmiths in Ephesus, who relied on the sale of shrines to the goddess Diana, acknowledged that "this trade of ours is in danger." It is somewhat satisfying to note something similar happening with Bud Light.

II. THE KING OF BEERS

Long before embracing the queer agenda, Anheuser-Busch marketed Budweiser as the "King of Beers," which serious Christians should recognize to be a problem in and of itself.

A. Proverbs 20:1

God's word does not trifle with the dangers of alcohol, but puts out blunt warnings that only sinners ignore.

B. Proverbs 23:29-35

Again, the hazards of drinking are plain to see, but pay special attention to the words, "Do not look on the wine" (31). This stuff should not be looked at with admiration, so how can it be imbibed in with any expectation of God's approval?

C. 1st Timothy 5:23

This verse more than implies, it directly states that Timothy had been previously in the habit of abstaining from wine. When he was told to partake, it was only to be a "little" and it was for medicinal purposes only. Specifically, it was for **remedial** medical benefit, meaning it was to treat an existing condition, not to prevent some feared condition from arising. Those are severely limited conditions to meet for apostolic approval in drinking wine.

D. Isaiah 65:8; 5:11

Invariably, opponents will raise the fact that good people throughout Scripture drank wine, and even Jesus' first miracle was to transform water into wine. That's all true. What is not accurate is the assumption that wine was always

alcoholic. Our current language employs the word "juice" to describe fresh fluid from a grape, whereas "wine" is used exclusively for the fermented stuff, but neither the Hebrew the Old Covenant was written in nor the Greek used in the New Testament made that distinction. The word translated "wine" could refer to fresh juice or fermented wine and only context would indicate the difference. "New wine" is still in the grape, so it is clearly not describing an intoxicant. Strong drink is different. Scripture didn't always use one of these phrases, though, so we need to be careful not to reach conclusions the context does not demand.

E. Ephesians 5:18

Keep in mind that every drop of alcohol displaces the Holy Spirit. If we want the Spirit of God within, we need to make room.

F. Titus 2:11-12; 1st Peter 5:8

Inspiration consistently calls Christians to sobriety. Being sober involves far more than abstinence from strong drink, but it certainly starts there.