

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## “WHO HATH WOE... ?”

By: Jerry Fite

**L**ong ago, the inspired writer of Proverbs asked this question, and answered it. “*Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath complaining? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; They that go out and seek out mixed wine.*” (Proverbs 23:28-30).

A bizarre case has recently caught the headlines in our state of a young woman failing to render aid to a homeless man after she hit him with her car. With him embedded in her windshield, she drove home, lowered the garage door, and let him bleed to death. Later, she had her friend dispose of the body in a park, and the bloody driver’s seat was burned in the back yard.

Chante Mallard was convicted of murder this last Thursday in Fort Worth, and was sentenced Friday to 50 years for murdering Gregory Biggs. She received also a 10 year sentence for tampering with evidence, which runs concurrently with her murder sentence. She will not be up for parole for at least 25 years, when she is 52. Of course, Gregory

Biggs, will never reach the age of 38.

At her hearing, Chante tearfully lamented, “I have ruined the lives of other people...I have ruined my family’s life.” Today, she certainly feels woe and sorrow. But the night of October 25, 2001 and into the early morning hours of October 26, she was seeking euphoria by drinking alcoholic beverages and taking a mind altering drug called Ecstasy.

Alcoholic beverages will in themselves slow down our reaction time, therefore making one extremely dangerous behind the wheel of a moving car. The Proverbs accurately says, “*Thine eyes shall behold strange things, And thy heart will utter perverse things.*” (Proverbs 23:33). One of side affects of Ecstasy is being mentally confused to one’s surroundings.

Mallard and her defense attorney blamed her behavior following the accident upon the alcohol and drugs, including marijuana. The Houston Chronicle reports, “her mind was too muddled by drugs and the fear of being arrested to call for help. She said

she just cried and kept apologizing to Biggs.” Blaming mind altering drugs may be the desperate defense, but the foolish decision to partake of them in the first place is indefensible.

Proverbs warns all that seek wine and mixed wine that they will place themselves in dangerous situations. “*Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, Or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.*” (Proverbs 23:34).

Chante Mallard ignored God’s wisdom to “*look not thou upon the wine when it is red, When it sparkleth in the cup, when it goeth down smoothly; At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder*” (Proverbs 31-32).

If you are toying with the idea getting high on drugs and alcohol, think again. They will sting you like a deadly snake. Ask Chante as she experiences woe behind bars for at least the next 25 years. Was alcohol, marijuana, and Ecstasy worth it? Listen to God’s word. Follow God’s word. Avoid such needless woe!