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## ***What Would Jesus Drink?* Answers the Question that Refuses to Go Away**

**Austin, Texas – Nov. 1, 2011** – In the twenty-first century people still argue about what the Bible says about drinking. Brad Whittington aims to set that question to rest in his latest book *What Would Jesus Drink?*

"There is a lot of religious bullying going on in the name of piety," Whittington said. "In the Southern Baptist Convention, drinking wine is a firing offense despite the clear message of the Bible. "

To be released in December from Wunderfool Press, *What Would Jesus Drink?* tackles the question head on. "It actually started back in 1995 with a sermon equating beer in the fridge with robbery, murder, and rape. I didn't see wine in the Ten Commandments next to "thou shalt not kill," so I set down see what it really said."

Whittington released the study online in 1996 in the infancy of the Internet. In the past fifteen years, it has been referenced and quoted on dozens of blogs and websites, in online and print magazines, and in two books, *The Year of Living Biblically* by A.J. Jacobs and *Diary of a Part-Time Monk* by J. Wilson.

The son of a Southern Baptist preacher, Whittington has an insider's knowledge of the traditional prohibitionist arguments, which he addresses in detail using the 247 verses in the Bible referencing wine and strong drink, arguments such as the wine in the Bible is really grape juice, or that Christians should not drink to avoid causing a weaker brother to stumble.

What would Jesus drink? "The Bible comes down strongly in favor of moderation, not prohibition," Whittington says. "And it was real wine. Otherwise, why the twenty warnings against drunkenness?"

Whittington, an award-winning novelist, decided to release the updated and expanded essay when he discovered that books are still being published today with the grape juice argument and even more absurd claims that he says don't square with the source material.

"In the twenty-first century we should be able to face this question honestly," Whittington said. "At the worst we should agree to disagree instead of enforcing a questionable interpretation on others. *What Would Jesus Drink?* is a step toward that goal."

***What Would Jesus Drink?: What the Bible Really Says About Alcohol* – by Brad Whittington – Release Date Dec. 1, 2011 – Wunderfool Press – ISBN 13: 978-1-937274-13-9 – Paperback: \$7.49 – Ebook: \$0.99**

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