

# Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

<https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/>

## STRONGER THAN THE POWER OF SATAN

I know a man who is a habitual drunkard. It is impossible to speak with him because he drinks day and night.

I met him recently as he was on his way to the synagogue, and he said, "Today I am going to pay my debt to God."

I told him, "I know your great debt. Today you will empty your bottle, and tomorrow it will be full again."

He said, "This is the last bottle. I confess this before you!"

I said, "True confession can only be made before God."

"But how can God forgive me after so many years of sinful living?" he asked.

This was the first time I ever had an opportunity to speak seriously with this man. He said, "When my son was a baby, my wife left us for a rich man. I was poor, and bore the full responsibility of raising my son. She never even came to visit. I drink to forget everything."

I told him, "You have not found the true answer to your problems. If I told you everything I have been through, you would kill yourself because the bottle would not be strong enough to make you forget it all. I have experienced the Holocaust, and I lost my entire family in the Warsaw

Ghetto.”

“How do you stay so strong?” he asked.

“I am not alone,” I replied. “God keeps me from giving up on life. When we turn to Him, He will be near to us. John 16:20 says, ‘You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy.’ Would you like to come to my home today? We can talk and get to know one another better.”

So he and his son came to my home and ate with my family. Before we ate, we thanked our Savior. After the meal, I said to him, “I have told you all of my past troubles, and yet I am happy because I have received the Lord as my Savior.”

He then said, “Yes, I can see you are happy, but Jesus cannot be our God. He does not have power to help us.”

I said, “Because you have mentioned Jesus, I would like to speak with you about Him.” He became very serious, and I read Isaiah 53:6, “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” I then asked, “Who is this speaking of, if not Jesus?”

Suddenly he started to cry for a very long time. When he regained his composure, he cried, “O Lord, help me. Take me out of this darkness where I have been for so long.” When he opened his eyes, he seemed surprised and asked, “What happened to me? Am I drunk again?”

“No,” I told him, “you are well.”

“Then why have I been weeping? Why am I so weak?” he asked.

“You are strong now,” I assured him. “Now you will know the truth of Psalm

112:1, 'Blessed is the man who fears the LORD.' If you truly receive Him, the bottle will not have victory over you. Your wife may even return to you. But you must not let Satan have power over you and hinder you from trusting in the Lord. If you turn with all of your heart to the Lord, He will empower you to stop drinking."

He replied firmly, "Now I am stronger than the power of Satan over me. He can no longer rule my life. I am going to tell my wife why I am finished with the bottle!"

He started to cry tears of joy.

Please pray that the Lord will keep this man and that he will be able to resist Satan's temptations. Pray also for his young son and that his family will be reunited.