

A Better Cup

Description

[RG AUDIO 121513](#)

Isaiah 51:17-23

It has taken me 22 years of marriage to learn how my wife wants to start her day. With a cup of coffee. In bed. That I bring to her. I am especially grateful for the one cup, pod-loaded coffee makers that provides me with an easy way to make her day.

It wasn't coffee that the Israelites had been drinking. It was punishment and it was bitter. God made it clear that it was time to remove the bitterness from the consequences of their disobedience. He would never make them drink that gall again. However, they had to learn and practice obedience.

There is another cup that represents the sacrifice Jesus paid for our waywardness. The baby, swaddled in the manger, would grow to drink that cup of punishment for us. His once-for-all gift means we do not need to taste for ourselves from the cup of God's wrath. We can drink from the cup of remembrance to understand how obedience to God will always take us through enemy-filled wilderness and lead us all the way home.

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