

## **Bitter Aftertaste, or They Gave Me Limeade to Drink**

Chemistry class was always a blast, no pun intended or guilt admitted. But it was also filled with bad smells and mental stress as we worked with the various chemicals. I remember one time at Lipscomb, I was trying to identify an “unknown” when a couple of “friends” offered me some limeade to drink. Being a gullible young person, I took a sip. It didn’t take an understanding of covalent bonds to tell me that I had actually put green bathroom soap in my mouth. You might know that the prankster was not the usual suspect, because David had not started college yet. But the effect of this joke was quite memorable, and the aftertaste difficult to remove.

I am reminded of Matthew 27:34, where we read that those in charge of the crucifixion of Jesus offered Him wine mixed with gall for His terrible thirst, but after tasting its bitterness, he refused to drink more of it. In the midst of his physical suffering and the burden of our sin, He had to deal with a bitter aftertaste that He couldn’t wash out. He had to endure it.

Now I was surprised by the soap, but Christ knew exactly what he was getting into, and accepted it for us. We commemorate the bitterness of His death, but we also celebrate the cleansing of the palette that was a result of His resurrection victory.

Let us partake of this communion with our whole hearts so that we may not leave Him any residual bitter aftertaste.

It was a surprise for me but not for Christ.

Some people like to play tricks in that environment

Have you ever said something bad and had to wash your mouth out with soap? I have needed it a few times, but I don't remember my parents ever making me do this.

Remember when they gave me green colored soap at DLC, and I thought it was limeade (had to wait to get rid of it.; the aftertaste that lasts for a long time; we need a palette cleanser

- David wasn't there – or was he?
- Wash your mouth out with soap; did you ever have to do that? Perhaps I needed it
- The stress of the H<sub>2</sub>S smells and measurement uncertainty
- Sniffing ammonia

Soozie's imitrex – so bitter it makes her cry to think about taking it.

(Matthew 27:34) There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. (in the midst of other suffering and burden of sin); the bitter "sting" of sin/death

Gall was very bitter; Think of Christ on the cross with this bitter aftertaste; He couldn't wash it out, and it did not satisfy His thirst. He had to endure it.

We commemorate the bitterness of His death, but we celebrate the cleansing of the pallet in His resurrection. Some of us may still leave a bitter aftertaste to Him

It was a surprise for me but not for Christ.

Hot sauce on teacher's hamburger

Devo: Ps 69:21: They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

A "bitter pill to swallow"