

# Hosea 7:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.

## Analysis

---

Drunken revelry and conspiracy: 'In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.' Royal celebrations become occasions for conspiracy. The king made sick (הַקְלֵל מִקְרָמָת, hechelu mechamat—literally 'made sick from heat of') wine, extending hand (מַשְׁךָ mashakh yado) with לְצָרִים (lotsetsim, scorners/mockers). Drunkenness facilitates treachery; impaired judgment enables manipulation. Proverbs 20:1, 31:4-5 warn leaders against wine clouding judgment. When rulers join mockers, wisdom departs and destruction approaches. Only Christ our King never falters in judgment, righteousness, or wisdom (Isaiah 11:2-5).

## Historical Context

---

Royal feasts in ancient Near East were occasions for both celebration and political maneuvering. The account of Zimri assassinating Elah 'drinking himself drunk' at Tirzah (1 Kings 16:8-10) provides biblical parallel. Similar to Belshazzar's feast interrupted by handwriting on wall (Daniel 5). The atmosphere of drunken revelry lowered defenses, enabling conspirators to strike or manipulate. The reference to king joining 'scorners' suggests alliance with cynical, ungodly advisors rather than wise counselors (Psalm 1:1). Archaeological evidence shows luxury and excess characterizing Israel's ruling class during this period, confirming prophetic critiques. This demonstrates that leaders abandoning sobriety and wisdom for indulgence and foolish company court disaster.

## Related Passages

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

---

1. How does substance abuse and intoxication compromise judgment and enable ungodly influences?
2. What does the king's alliance with 'scorners' teach about the importance of wise counsel versus foolish companionship in leadership?

## Interlinear Text

---

בַּיּוֹם	וְיָמֵן	מֶלֶךְ	נָאָסָה	בְּחִילָה	בְּשָׁרֶם	שָׁרֵךְ	תְּמִימָה	בְּמִלְבָד	בְּמִלְבָד
<b>In the day</b>	<b>of our king</b>	<b>have made him sick</b>	<b>the princes</b>	<b>with bottles</b>	<b>of wine</b>				
H3117	H4428	H2470	H8269	H2534	H3196				
מָשַׁךְ	יָד	אֶת	לְצָאִים						
<b>he stretched out</b>	<b>his hand</b>	<b>H854</b>	<b>with scorners</b>						
H4900	H3027		H3945						

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Isaiah 28:1** (Parallel theme): Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!