

# Isaiah 1:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water:

## Analysis

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The metaphors of silver becoming dross and wine mixed with water depict moral and spiritual adulteration. Silver, representing value and purity, has become worthless slag; wine (symbolizing joy and covenant blessing) is diluted, losing potency. This illustrates how sin corrupts what God intended for good. The imagery anticipates Malachi 3:2-3's refining fire and the New Testament's call to purity (1 Peter 1:7). Reformed theology sees this as total depravity's corruption of God's good creation.

## Historical Context

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Metallurgical and viticultural imagery would resonate with Isaiah's agrarian audience. The mixed wine may reference merchants diluting product for profit, reflecting broader economic injustice.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What aspects of our lives have become 'dross'—externally religious but internally compromised?

2. How does God's refining process restore us to intended purity?

## Interlinear Text

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כֶּסֶף הָ	לְסִיגִ יִם	סָבָא וְ	מֶה וּלְ	בְמִיּוֹם:
<b>Thy silver</b>	<b>is become dross</b>	<b>thy wine</b>	<b>mixed</b>	<b>with water</b>
H3701	H5509	H5435	H4107	H4325

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hosea 4:18** (Parallel theme): Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually: her rulers with shame do love, Give ye.

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