

v 18-19 *Woe ! #3* God's portrayal of religious ceremony: *iniquity, vanity, sin.* v18  
The folly of demanding that God act as a "genie". v19

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v 20 *Woe ! #4* This is the logical aftermath of woes 1-3; everything is 'upside down'.  
God's word has been corrupted, changed and perverted everywhere.  
This awful and fatal sin is practiced in both the spiritual ("religious") realm and the social  
("political") arena. 2 Cor 2:17 Ps 94:20

v 21 *Woe ! #5* The repulsive sins of pride, conceit and Pharisaical self-righteousness.  
Pr 26:12 Isa 65:5 Luke 18:11-12

v 22-23 *Woe ! #6* Alcohol perverts ones judgment.  
Israel was without excuse; they had been warned.  
Proverbs 20:1, 29-35, 23: 29-35  
Alcoholism is a sin (not a disease); and it breeds *spiritual wickedness in high*  
*places* which results in social injustice. Pro 31:4-5 Eccl 3:16  
This angers *the Judge of all the earth.*

#### IV. The sorry Conclusion

v 24-30

Isaiah chapter 5 closes showing the primary reason for God's punishment of his people: *because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel,* v24. see Jeremiah 12:10, 3:14-15

Israel had *light* (i.e. God's word); and light brings responsibility.  
They committed the double sin of (1) ignoring God's word (Hosea 8:12) and  
(2) changing God's word (v20).

v 25 *Therefore the anger of the LORD is kindled against his people*  
this phrase is found in 11 chapters of the sacred scriptures  
{ Ex 32 / Num 11, 25 / 2 Chr 25 / Isa 1, 5 / Jer 8, 36, 51 / Dan 9 }

Consequently, the Lord brought double judgment. see: Jeremiah 16:18.  
Israel suffered the spanking hand of toil within the land (v25) and the troublesome  
'spanking' of the invading hordes of enemy armies from without (v26-30).

As Shakespeare wrote : "double, double toil and trouble". [He oft borrowed from the Bible]