

# 2 Peter 2:22

by John Gill

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*The sermon explores the nature of sin and the irreversible state of apostates as illustrated by the proverb in 2 Peter 2:22.*

**Scripture:** Proverbs 26:11, Matthew 7:6, Luke 15:17, 2 Peter 2:22

**Topics:** "Apostasy", "Nature of Sin"

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## Description

John Gill expounds on 2 Peter 2:22, illustrating the profound truth of the proverb that likens apostates to dogs returning to their vomit and washed sows returning to mire. He emphasizes the filthy nature of sin and the irreclaimable state of those who turn away from the truth, highlighting that without a change in nature, they are doomed to revert to their former sinful ways. Gill draws parallels from Hebrew interpretations, reinforcing the idea that such individuals are trapped in their own defilement, unable to escape their sinful tendencies.

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## Transcript

Ver. 22. But it is happened unto them, according to the true proverb,.... Which is true, both in fact and in the application of it, and which lies in the Scriptures of truth, at least the first part of it, Pr 26:11.

The dog [is] turned to his own vomit again, and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire; which expresses the filthy nature of sin, signified by vomit, mire, and dirt, than which nothing is more abominable and defiling; and also the just characters of these apostates, who are filly compared to dogs and swine and likewise their irreclaimable and irrecoverable state and condition, it being impossible they should be otherwise, unless their natures were changed and altered. In the Hebrew language, a "sow" is called ryzx, from the root rzx, which signifies to "return", because that creature, as soon as it is out of the mire and dirt, and is washed from its filthiness, naturally returns to it again: so such apostates return to what they were before, to their former principles and practices: in this manner the Jews explain the proverb,

"Tobiah returns to Tobiah, as it is said, Pr 26:11; as a dog returneth to his vomit {r}."

{r} Vajikra Rabba, sect. 16. fol. 158. 4.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-gill/2-peter-222/>

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