

# “THE MAKING OF SILVER”

Psalm 66:1-20

“For thou, O God, hast proved us; thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.” (v. 10)

## — INTRODUCTION —

- Psalm 66 is a powerful song of praise to be sung. (Written out of gratefulness to God)
- The composer has been delivered from personal testing.
- The writer is ecstatic over God’s faithful intervention. (Listen to his praise:)

“We went through fire and we went through water, but you Lord brought us out into a wealthy place. (v. 12)

**Fact:** In verse 11, God brings us in. (Sovereignty)

**Fact:** In verse 12a, God brings us through. (Sustains)

**Fact:** In verse 12b, God brings us out. (Solution)

And God always brings us out different than when we go in. (It’s bitter or better.)

## 3 Absolutes That Minister Today

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### I. God Is Great In **POWER** (v. 1-9)

**Question:** Why are we told to praise the Lord in verses 1-5?

**Answer:** Because of His active ministry in our lives.

#### #1. **God Turns**

He turned the sea into dry land; they went through the flood on foot. (v. 6)

Two Miracles:

1. The Red Sea (when God brought Israel out of Egypt)
2. The River of Jordan (when God brought Israel into the promised land.

#### **In Other Words ...**

- There is not one obstacle or power of darkness that can hold you in Egypt (a type of the world and sin).
- There is not one River of Jordan that can keep you from possessing what God intends for you to have.

#### #2. **God Sees**

“His eyes behold the nations” (v. 7)

**Fact:** God sees exactly where you are today !

**Fact:** God knows exactly what you are facing !

**Fact:** God’s plan for you cannot be thwarted !

#3. **God Holds**

“Which holdeth our soul in life and suffereth not our feet to be moved” (v. 9)

**Question:** What does it mean that God holds our soul and suffereth not our feet to be moved?

**Answer:**  Holds our soul  means: That God preserves us in the midst of any extreme trial that seeks to crush our spirit.

Suffers not our feet to be moved  means: That the Lord will keep you firm and in place through every trial and season of life.

II. **God Is Great In PURGING** (v. 10)

**Question:** Why did God allow the psalmist to be taken into the Babylonian captivity?

**Question:** Why did God allow the affliction and fire of verses 11 & 12?

**Answer:** To prove us and try us as silver is tried.

**In Other Words**

- The Lord tried Israel to test their allegiance to Him.
- The Lord tested Israel to prove her loyalty to Him.
- The Lord purified Israel as silver in the fire.

**Silver Is Purified By Fire**

- “I will bring them through the fire and refine them as silver” (Zechariah 13:9)
- “He shall be as a refiner’s fire and purifier of silver” (Malachi 3:3)
- “Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer” (Proverbs 25:4)

**4 Silver Secrets**

1. Refined silver requires just the right care. (Deuteronomy 32:10-14)
2. Refined silver requires just the right furnace. (I Peter 1:6) (Not just any oven will do.)
3. Refined silver requires just the right heat. (I Corinthians 10:13)  
(The silversmith never neglects the thermostat)
  - If it’s too cold, the base metals will not separate from silver.
  - If it’s too hot, portions of silver will be carried off with the impure lead.
4. Refined silver requires just the right timing. (Psalm 31:15)  
The smith knows when to take the metal out of the heat.

III. **God Is Great In PROVIDENCE** (v.11-16)

**Question:** Who was it that allowed Israel to be taken hostage into Babylon?

**Question:** Who was it that used a wicked king to fulfill God’s purpose in Israel?

“Thou brought us into the net, laid affliction upon our loins and caused men to ride over our heads” (v. 11, 12)

**Fact:** It was by God's design that we went through the fire.

**Fact:** It was by God's appointment for our inconvenience.

**Fact:** It was by God's permission that Israel was tried as silver is tried.

## **Never Forget**

- God is in control and "works all things after the counsel of His own will" . (Ephesians 1:11)
- God is preparing you for something greater than before your fire. (Hebrews 12:11)
- God is producing fruit in every season that seems painful to you. (John 15:2)

## **What's The Secret To Survival ?**

1. **Integrity of character.** (v. 13-16)
2. **Humility of spirit.** (v. 17)
3. **Purity of heart.** (v. 18)
4. **Dependability in prayer.** (v. 19, 20)

**"When God has tried me I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10)**

***AMEN !***

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