

# Deuteronomy 28:66

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:

## Analysis

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**And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee**—Hebrew *wəhāyū ḥayyekā təlū’im ləkā minneḡed* (וְהִיּוּ חַיִּים לְבָמְגַד) 'and your life shall be hanging before you') uses the imagery of something suspended by a thread, precarious. **And thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life**—the phrase *wəlō’ ṭa’āmîn bəḥayyeķā* (וְלֹא תָּאִמְּן בַּחֲיֶךָ) 'and you shall not trust/believe in your life') means constant uncertainty about survival.

This verse captures existential dread: life without security, hope, or assurance. The repetition 'day and night' means unceasing anxiety. No moment is safe. The phrase 'none assurance of thy life' is literally 'no faith in your life'—you can't trust you'll survive the day. This became reality for Jews in diaspora, especially under persecution. Every knock at the door could mean death.

## Historical Context

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During the Holocaust, Jews lived precisely this reality—daily uncertainty about survival, selection for death without warning, life 'hanging by a thread.' Medieval Jews faced similar conditions during pogroms. Even in peacetime exile, antisemitism created perpetual insecurity. This verse became prophetic of the Jewish condition for 2,000 years.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does the loss of security reveal our dependence on God for life itself?
2. What does this passage teach about the psychological consequences of living under judgment?
3. How does Christ's promise of eternal life provide the ultimate 'assurance' that exile destroyed?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיִתְּחַנֵּן	לְבָנָךְ	מִתְּחִנֵּן	בְּתִימָן	תַּלְאֵם	לְבָנָךְ	מִתְּחִנֵּן	וְיִתְּחַנֵּן
H1961	<b>And thy life</b>	<b>shall hang</b>	H0	<b>in doubt before</b>	<b>thee and thou shalt fear</b>		H6342
H2416		H8511		H5048			
לְלִילָה	וְיֻמֶּן	אֵל	וְיִמְעַט	תַּאֲמִן	וְיִתְּחַנֵּן	בְּתִימָן	
<b>and night</b>	<b>day</b>	H3808	<b>and shalt have none assurance</b>	H539	<b>And thy life</b>	H2416	
H3915	H3119						

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