

# Hosea 13:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid.

## Analysis

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The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid. Iniquity bound up and sin hidden doesn't mean forgotten but stored for future accounting. The imagery suggests sealed records awaiting judgment day. Deuteronomy 32:34 similarly describes: Is not this laid up in store with me, sealed up among my treasures? No sin escapes accounting; all awaits judgment. Ecclesiastes 12:14 declares: God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing. Only Christ's atonement removes stored-up sin from believers' account (Isaiah 43:25, I will not remember your sins).

## Historical Context

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Ephraim's accumulated sins across generations awaited comprehensive accounting. Assyrian judgment demonstrated God's complete awareness and certain retribution. What seemed forgotten or hidden proved carefully recorded. Modern application: time doesn't erase guilt; it accumulates until judgment. Every secret sin remains in divine record unless removed through Christ's blood. The cross demonstrates both realities: God forgets nothing (comprehensive awareness driving thorough atonement) yet remembers believers' sins no more (Hebrews 8:12) through Christ's complete payment.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does sin being bound up and hidden for future judgment drive urgent repentance and faith now?
2. What does Christ's removal of stored-up sin from believers' accounts teach about atonement's completeness?

## Interlinear Text

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צָרוּר	עוֹן	אֶפְרַיִם	צָפוּן ה	חַטָּאתוֹ:
is bound up	The iniquity	of Ephraim	is hid	his sin
H6887	H5771	H669	H6845	H2403

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 14:17** (Sin): My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and thou sewest up mine iniquity.

**Romans 2:5** (Parallel theme): But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;