

# Isaiah 59:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them;

## Analysis

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Full confession: 'For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them.' Three terms - transgressions (pesha - rebellion), sins (chata'ah - missing the mark), iniquities (avon - twisted guilt) - comprehensively confess. Sin testifies like a witness.

## Historical Context

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This confession uses the same vocabulary as the Day of Atonement rituals. Recognition of specific sins is necessary for genuine repentance.

## Related Passages

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does sin 'testify against' us before God?
2. What does it mean to 'know' your iniquities rather than denying or excusing them?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	רַב ו	פְּשָׁעֵינוּ	נִגְדָּךְ	יְהִטְאוּתֵנוּ
H3588	are multiplied	For our transgressions	H5048	before thee and our sins
	H7231	H6588		H2403
עַ נְתָה	כִּי	פְּשָׁעֵינוּ	אֶתְנוּ	
testify	H0	For our transgressions	H854	
H6030		H6588		
	וְעֹנֵתֵנוּ	יָדְעֵנוּ:		
	are with us and as for our iniquities	we know		
	H5771	H3045		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezra 9:6** (Parallel theme): And said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens.

**Hosea 5:5** (Sin): And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.

**Isaiah 1:4** (Sin): Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

**Jeremiah 14:7** (Sin): O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou it for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

**Ezekiel 5:6** (Parallel theme): And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them.

**Hosea 4:2** (Parallel theme): By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

