

# Jeremiah 14:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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Jeremiah intercedes despite God's earlier prohibition (14:10-12 will explain why this prayer fails): 'O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou it for thy name's sake.' The confession 'our iniquities testify against us' acknowledges guilt. Yet the appeal is to God's 'name's sake'—His reputation and character. The confession continues: 'for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.' This represents proper prayer: confessing sin while appealing to God's character rather than human merit. The plea is not based on innocence but on God's covenant faithfulness and concern for His glory among nations.

## Historical Context

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Prophetic intercession often appealed to God's name/reputation (Exodus 32:11-13; Numbers 14:13-19). If Israel perished, pagan nations might conclude Yahweh was weak or unfaithful to His promises.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does appealing to God's name/glory differ from appealing to our own merit?
2. What role does confession of sin play in authentic prayer?
3. How can we pray with boldness while acknowledging our unworthiness?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲדָמָה      עֲוֹנוֹתַי יְהוָה      עָלֵינוּ      יְהוָה      עָלֵינוּ      לֵמַעַן  
H518      **though our iniquities**      **testify**      H0      **O LORD**      **against us do**      H4616  
H5771      H6030      H3068      H6213

שְׁמִי      כִּי      רַב      מְשׁוּבֹתַי יְהוָה      לִבִּי  
**thou it for thy name's**      H3588      **are many**      **sake for our backslidings**      H0  
H8034      H7231      H4878

חָטָאנוּ:  
**we have sinned**  
H2398

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 25:11** (Sin): For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.

**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 59:12** (Sin): 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;

**Jeremiah 5:6** (Sin): Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased.

**Jeremiah 2:19** (References Lord): Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

**Ephesians 1:6** (Parallel theme): To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

**Ephesians 1:12** (Parallel theme): That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

**Hosea 7:10** (References Lord): And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

**Psalms 115:1** (References Lord): Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

**Jeremiah 3:6** (References Lord): The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot.