

# Job 16:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou hast filled me with wrinkles, which is a witness against me: and my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face.

## Analysis

**And thou hast filled me with wrinkles** (וַתִּמְטֵנִי, vatikmteni)—The rare verb מָטַן (qamat) means 'to seize, shrivel, make wrinkled.' Job addresses God directly: You have shriveled me. His emaciation becomes **a witness against me** (לְעֵד, le'ed)—legal terminology. His physical collapse testifies in the cosmic courtroom.

**And my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face** (וְקָמָה בִּי כַחַשִּׁי, vayaqam bi khachashi)—The noun כַּחַשׁ (kachash) means 'leanness, emaciation, lying.' Some translations read 'my leanness' as 'my gauntness'; others interpret it as 'my liar'—his wasted body falsely 'testifies' that he's guilty. Job's suffering becomes his accuser, though he's innocent. This anticipates Christ, whose innocent suffering bore false witness before tribunals.

## Historical Context

In ancient Israelite legal proceedings, physical evidence served as testimony. Job uses forensic language: his body is a 'witness' (עֵד, ed) in the divine lawsuit. The Mosaic law required two or three witnesses (Deuteronomy 19:15); Job ironically has multiple 'witnesses' against him—all circumstantial, none true.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does physical suffering sometimes become a 'false witness' suggesting guilt where there is none?
2. In what ways did Jesus experience His own body 'bearing witness' against Him before accusers?
3. When has circumstantial evidence in your life suggested God's judgment, though you knew your innocence?

## Interlinear Text

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וְתִקְמָטִי	לֵעֵד	הִנֵּה	וַיָּקָם	בִּי
And thou hast filled me with wrinkles	which is a witness	H1961	rising up	H0
H7059	H5707		H6965	
כַּחֲשִׁי	בְּפָנַי	יִעֲנֶה:		
against me and my leanness	to my face	in me beareth witness		
H3585	H6440	H6030		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 10:17** (Witness): Thou renewest thy witnesses against me, and increasest thine indignation upon me; changes and war are against me.

**Job 19:20** (Parallel theme): My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth.

**Ruth 1:21** (Parallel theme): I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

