

# Job 21:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who shall declare his way to his face? and who shall repay him what he hath done?

## Analysis

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None confront the wicked: 'Who shall declare his way to his face? and who shall repay him what he hath done?' Job observes that the wicked often face no earthly accountability—none confront them ('declare to his face') or ensure recompense. This describes the powerful wicked who escape human justice. Yet Job's question anticipates divine justice—if humans don't repay, God will. Final accountability exists even when temporal accountability fails.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern justice depended on witnesses willing to confront wrongdoers. The powerful often escaped accountability because none dared confront them. Job recognizes this failure of human justice while trusting divine justice won't similarly fail.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

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

## Study Questions

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1. How do we pursue earthly justice while trusting divine justice for what escapes human accountability?
2. What responsibility do we have to 'declare to the face' of wrongdoers when able?
3. How does final judgment comfort when earthly justice fails?

## Interlinear Text

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מִי	יְגִיד	עַל	פָּנָיו	דֶּרֶכּוֹ	וְהוּא	עָשָׂה
H4310	Who shall declare	H5921	to his face	his way	H1931	him what he hath done
	H5046		H6440	H1870		H6213
וְ	יִשְׁלַם	לּוֹ				
H4310	and who shall repay	H0				
	H7999					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 7:10** (Parallel theme): And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face.

**Galatians 2:11** (Parallel theme): But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.