

# Job 26:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hell is naked before him, and destruction hath no covering.

## Analysis

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**Hell is naked before him**—The Hebrew Sheol (שְׁאוֹל), here translated 'hell,' refers to the realm of the dead, the underworld where departed spirits go. Arom (אֶרֶם, naked) means exposed, bare, without covering—total vulnerability before divine omniscience. **Destruction hath no covering** uses Abaddon (אֲבַדּוֹן), the place of destruction or perishing, parallel to Sheol. The phrase ein kesut (אֵין כְּסוּת) means 'no covering/concealment.'

Job affirms God's exhaustive knowledge penetrates even death and destruction—domains considered beyond human reach. Sheol cannot hide the dead from God's sight (Psalm 139:8, Proverbs 15:11). This prepares for the New Testament revelation that Christ holds the keys of death and Hades (Revelation 1:18), and nothing in all creation—including death—can separate believers from God's love (Romans 8:38-39). Job's suffering doesn't mean God is absent or ignorant; rather, God sees and knows everything, even when His purposes remain mysterious.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern cultures universally conceived of an underworld where the dead existed in shadowy form. Israel's Sheol theology was more restrained than neighboring mythologies, emphasizing God's sovereignty even over death. Job's statement represents advanced revelation for his patriarchal era, anticipating later biblical teaching on resurrection and final judgment.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's omniscience—knowing even the dead in Sheol—comfort or challenge you?
2. What does this verse teach about God's sovereignty over realms that seem beyond His reach?
3. How should the truth that nothing is hidden from God affect your daily life and secret thoughts?

## Interlinear Text

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עָר וּם	וְשָׂא וּל	וְנִגְדָּה וְ	וְאֵין	כִּסּוֹת	לְאַבְדּוֹן:
is naked	Hell	H5048	H369	hath no covering	before him and destruction
H6174	H7585			H3682	H11

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 139:8** (Parallel theme): If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

**Proverbs 15:11** (Parallel theme): Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

**Hebrews 4:13** (Parallel theme): Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

**Job 28:22** (Parallel theme): Destruction and death say, We have heard the fame thereof with our ears.

**Amos 9:2** (Parallel theme): Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:

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