

# Job 34:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That which I see not teach thou me: if I have done iniquity, I will do no more.

## Analysis

**That which I see not teach thou me** (בִּלְעֲדֵי אֶחֱזֶה אֶתָּה הֲרֵנִי, bil'adei echezeh attah horeni)—The phrase "that which I see not" uses chazah (חָזָה, "to see, perceive") with negative. This is prayer for illumination—teach me what I cannot perceive. The verb yarah (יָרָה, Hiphil "to teach, instruct") is used of God teaching Torah (Deuteronomy 33:10). The phrase **if I have done iniquity, I will do no more** (אִם אָסִיף עוֹל פָּעַלְתִּי לֹא אֶסִּיף, if I have done iniquity, I will do no more) uses avel (עוֹל, iniquity, injustice) and yasaph (יָסַף, "to add, continue"). Elihu models repentance: asking God to reveal unknown sin, committing to cease.

This prayer echoes Psalm 19:12: "Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults," and Psalm 139:23-24: "Search me, O God... see if there be any wicked way in me." The reformed conscience knows sin's deceitfulness (Hebrews 3:13, Jeremiah 17:9)—we cannot fully perceive our own evil. We need divine illumination (Ephesians 1:18, Hebrews 4:12-13). The gospel provides both: the Spirit convicts of sin (John 16:8) and Christ cleanses from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

## Historical Context

Ancient Israelite piety emphasized self-examination and covenant loyalty. Sacrificial system included provisions for unintentional sins (Leviticus 4-5). Yet Job's case reveals limits of this framework—his suffering isn't corrective for sin. The psalm tradition developed this prayer for divine illumination (Psalms 19, 51,

139). NT builds on this: Spirit-enabled self-examination (1 Corinthians 11:28-31) and confidence that God's illumination leads to cleansing, not condemnation (1 John 1:7-9).

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

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

## Study Questions

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1. How can we practice spiritual self-examination without falling into introspection or scrupulosity?
2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in revealing sin?
3. How does confidence in God's forgiveness enable honest self-examination?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּלֹא	אֲנִי רֹא	אֶתְּ הַ	הַ רִּי	אֶתְּ	עַל
not	That which I see	H859	teach	H518	iniquity
H1107	H2372		H3384		H5766
פֶּה עָלִי	לֵא	אֶתְּ:			
thou me if I have done	H3808	I will do			
H6466		H3254			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 32:8** (Parallel theme): I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

**Psalms 19:12** (Parallel theme): Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

**Proverbs 28:13** (Sin): He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

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