

# Job 36:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath: they cry not when he bindeth them.

## Analysis

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**But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath**—The phrase חַנְּפֵי־לֵב (chanfei-lev, "hypocrites of heart") literally means "profane/godless of heart," describing those whose inner reality contradicts outward religious profession. They יָסִימוּ אַף (yasimu af, "store up anger/wrath")—accumulating divine wrath like a reservoir filling before the dam breaks. This theological principle appears in Romans 2:5: "treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath."

**They cry not when he bindeth them**—לֹא יִשְׁחָצוּ וְיִקְרָאוּ (lo yeshavve'u ki asaram, "they do not cry out when He binds them") reveals the hypocrite's defining characteristic: silent stubbornness under discipline. Unlike authentic believers who cry out to God in affliction (Psalm 18:6, 120:1), the hardened heart refuses to seek mercy even when suffering proves God's displeasure. This unrepentant silence demonstrates spiritual death—no relationship with God prompts prayer. The publican who cried "God be merciful to me a sinner" was justified; the self-righteous Pharisee who didn't cry out was condemned (Luke 18:9-14).

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern piety expected vocal lament during suffering—the Psalms model crying out to God in distress. Silent endurance of affliction suggested either stoic pride or acknowledgment that one's sin was too great for mercy. Elihu identifies this silence as diagnostic: those with no living relationship with God don't pray when He disciplines them. The "binding" imagery recalls verse 8's

fetters and cords—God constrains the hypocrite through affliction, but unlike the righteous who respond to correction (v.10), the godless remain mute in stubborn rebellion.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How can we examine our hearts to identify areas of hypocrisy where our profession doesn't match our practice?
2. What does your prayer life during trials reveal about the authenticity of your relationship with God?
3. How can we cultivate the habit of crying out to God in affliction rather than silent, stubborn endurance?

## Interlinear Text

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וְחִנְפֵּי	לֵב	יִשָּׁבֵר יָמוֹ	אֶף	לֵא	וְשִׁוּעוֹ	כִּי
But the hypocrites	in heart	heap up	wrath	H3808	they cry	H3588
H2611	H3820	H7760	H639		H7768	
אֲשֶׁר יִבְדֹּק:						
not when he bindeth						
H631						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 2:5** (Judgment): But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

**Job 36:8** (Parallel theme): And if they be bound in fetters, and be holden in cords of affliction;

**Psalms 107:10** (Parallel theme): Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron;

**Job 15:4** (Parallel theme): Yea, thou castest off fear, and restrainest prayer before God.

**2 Chronicles 28:13** (Judgment): And said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the captives hither: for whereas we have offended against the LORD already, ye intend to add more to our sins and to our trespass: for our trespass is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel.

**2 Chronicles 28:22** (Parallel theme): And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.

**Numbers 32:14** (Parallel theme): And, behold, ye are risen up in your fathers' stead, an increase of sinful men, to augment yet the fierce anger of the LORD toward Israel.