

# Job 6:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now therefore be content, look upon me; for it is evident unto you if I lie.

## Analysis

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After his sharp rebuke, Job appeals for honest examination. 'Be content' (ya'al, יָאַל) means to be willing or to resolve, calling for a deliberate choice to truly look at him. 'Look upon me' (panah, פָּנָה) means to turn the face toward, demanding direct personal attention rather than abstract theological debate. The phrase 'it is evident unto you' (literally 'before your face') emphasizes that Job's integrity should be obvious upon honest inspection. The conditional 'if I lie' (kazab, קָזַב) challenges them to find actual deception in his claims of innocence. This verse models a crucial aspect of suffering righteously—Job maintains his integrity while still engaging his accusers. He doesn't retreat into self-pity but instead invites scrutiny, confident that truth will vindicate him. This confidence in one's own uprightness before God, while maintaining humility, reflects the biblical balance between godly self-awareness and pride.

## Historical Context

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In ancient legal proceedings, testimony was evaluated through direct observation of the witness's demeanor and character. Job invokes this cultural practice, essentially saying, 'Look me in the eyes and tell me I'm lying.' This was a serious challenge in a culture where honor and shame were paramount, and false accusation could destroy one's social standing permanently.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How do we maintain confidence in our integrity before God while avoiding self-righteousness?
2. When facing false accusations, what does Job's appeal to honest examination teach us about defending ourselves?
3. How does Job's transparency contrast with the tendency to hide our struggles from fellow believers?

## Interlinear Text

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וְעַתָּה יְהִי לְךָ  
H6258 Now therefore be content  
H2974

לְפָנֶיךָ בְּעֵד  
look H0  
H6437

עַל  
H5921

עַל כִּי-כִּי  
upon me for it is evident unto you  
H6440 H518

אִכְּלָה  
if I lie  
H3576

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 33:3** (Parallel theme): My words shall be of the uprightness of my heart: and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly.

**Job 27:4** (Parallel theme): My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.

**Job 13:4** (Parallel theme): But ye are forgers of lies, ye are all physicians of no value.

