

# Proverbs 30:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:

## Analysis

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**Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die**—Agur's prayer introduces one of Scripture's most profound petitions about truth and contentment (vv. 7-9). The Hebrew *shā'al* (שָׁאַל, required) means earnestly asked or requested. **Deny me them not** shows urgency—these requests matter supremely.

The 'two things' structure creates literary anticipation, building toward verses 8-9's revelation. This prayer models what to prioritize in communion with God—not primarily circumstances, but character (integrity and contentment). It echoes Jesus's teaching to seek first God's kingdom and righteousness (Matthew 6:33).

## Historical Context

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Agur's self-description as ignorant (30:2-3) precedes this prayer, showing that true wisdom begins with humble acknowledgment of need. Ancient Near Eastern literature often used numbered sequences ('three things...four') for rhetorical emphasis.

## Related Passages

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

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

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

- ## Interlinear Text

## Additional Cross-References

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