

cerns in God's hands, and to know that God will work out everything justly. And to try not to be concerned about our own reputation, about our own glory, or our own advancement. God will work it out as is best in each case. And so Moses here interceded. He cried to the Lord, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. Then

(d) God's Answer. Here we have a very strange statement. The Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? I wonder why they AV, translated ^{it} that way. I wonder whether those scholars simply did not know quite what it meant. I certainly don't think it was a custom in the days of King James that a father spit in his daughter's face. As far as I know there is no western custom involved in it at all. In the East among the Arabs, there was, at least in those days, a habit of showing contempt of showing disgust by spitting upon the ground. Spitting upon the ground in front of a person. I do not -- I've never heard of any such thing as this -- actually spitting in a person's face. Now this doesn't speak as if it was something extremely ~~unusual~~ unusual. It just says, "If her father had but spit in her face should she not be ashamed seven days" as if it were a rather common thing. I think that we should note that the statement "in her face" ^{sp.?} bethenecah is very literally rendered here "in her face", but that that this ^{word} ~~word~~ panim which regularly means "face", is also used a great many times to mean "presence", to mean "in front of." It's the regular way to say "in front of something". Now ordinarily in the Heb. it is used with the preposition lamedh - "to the face of". That is very common for something that is in front of. The use with the prop. bh "in" only occurs about 10 times in the Heb. Bible with "face".. There are only about 10 such cases as against maybe 2 or 3 hundred where it's used with le to mean in front of, to the face of. But with the bh with panim I have not noticed a single case where it has to mean "in the face" in the literal sense. In Deut. 7:24 "There shall no man be able to stand before-panecah - in your face. That means "in front of" you and is translated "before/~~spit~~ thee" in the KJV. The same is true of Deut. 11:25 which is identical; and in Josh. 10:8 - "There shall not a man of them stand in your face". It means "in your presence." It's translated