

1 Corinthians 14:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace.

Analysis

If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace—Paul addresses overlapping prophecies. If *apokalyphthē* (ἀποκαλυφθῆ, "it be revealed") to *allō kathēmenō* (ἄλλω καθημένω, "another sitting by"), then *ho prōtos sigatō* (ὁ πρῶτος σιγάτω, "let the first be silent").

The scenario: one prophet is speaking when another receives revelation. Paul says the first should yield to the second. This assumes

1. prophecy can come spontaneously during worship
2. multiple people may receive revelation
3. order requires sequential sharing
4. the Spirit's timing matters—fresh revelation takes priority.

The same Spirit who gives revelation gives grace to wait; there's no conflict between Spirit-prompting and orderly process.

Historical Context

This suggests dynamic, Spirit-led worship where multiple congregants prophesied spontaneously. Paul doesn't suppress spontaneity but orders it: speak in turn, yield to others, prioritize fresh revelation.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse show both spontaneity and order in Spirit-led worship?
2. Why should the first speaker yield when another receives revelation?
3. What does this teach about the Spirit's character and corporate worship?

Interlinear Text

Ἐὰν δὲ ἄλλῳ ἀποκαλυφθῇ καθημένῳ ὁ πρῶτος
G1437 If to another any thing be revealed that sitteth by the first
G1161 G243 G601 G2521 G3588 G4413

σιγάτω
hold his peace
G4601

Additional Cross-References

Job 32:11 (Parallel theme): Behold, I waited for your words; I gave ear to your reasons, whilst ye searched out what to say.

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