

John 11:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

Analysis

Martha affirms orthodox Jewish belief in future resurrection at the last day, based on Daniel 12:2 and Pharisaic teaching. Her theology is sound but incomplete—she expects distant future fulfillment, not present reality. This reveals how correct doctrine can miss Christ's immediate power. Jesus doesn't correct her theology but transcends it. Her statement sets up Jesus' revolutionary self-identification (v. 25), showing how Old Testament hope finds fulfillment in His person.

Historical Context

The 'last day' was Pharisaic terminology for the final resurrection at Messiah's coming. Martha's confession shows her orthodox Jewish faith background and theological education.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How can correct theology become inadequate when it misses Christ's present power?

2. In what ways do we relegate God's promises to distant future instead of present faith?
3. What does Martha's orthodox belief teach about the relationship between sound doctrine and personal faith?

Interlinear Text

λέγει	αὐτῷ	Μάρθα	Οἶδα	ὅτι	ἀναστήσεται	ἐν	τῇ	
saith	unto him	Martha	I know	that	he shall rise again	at	at	G3588
G3004	G846	G3136	G1492	G3754	G450	G1722		
ἀναστάσει				ἐν	τῇ	ἐσχάτῃ	ἡμέρᾳ	
the resurrection				at	G3588	the last	day	
						G2078	G2250	

Additional Cross-References

Acts 24:15 (Resurrection): And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

Isaiah 26:19 (Resurrection): Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

Luke 14:14 (Resurrection): And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Hosea 13:14 (Parallel theme): I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

Psalms 17:15 (Parallel theme): As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Hosea 6:2 (Resurrection): After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

