

John 12:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.

Analysis

Jesus' soul becomes troubled, revealing His full humanity facing death. The Greek 'tarasso' indicates deep agitation, previewing Gethsemane's agony. He asks, 'what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour?'—expressing human shrinking from suffering while affirming divine purpose: 'but for this cause came I unto this hour.' This internal conflict demonstrates Christ's genuine human will submitting to divine will. His transparency models honest prayer that wrestles with God's purposes while ultimately submitting. Perfect obedience doesn't eliminate emotional struggle.

Historical Context

This passage parallels the synoptic Gethsemane accounts (Matt 26:38-39), showing John knew that tradition though recording different details. Jesus' emotional struggle validates the incarnation's reality.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus' emotional struggle teach about authentic humanity coexisting with perfect obedience?
2. How can we bring honest feelings to God while ultimately submitting to His will?
3. In what current struggle do you need to pray, 'for this cause came I unto this hour'?

Interlinear Text

Νῦν	ἡ	ψυχή	μου	τετάρακται	καὶ	τί	εἴπω	Πάτερ
Now	G3588	soul	my	is	and	what	shall I say	Father
G3568		G5590	G3450	G5015	G2532	G5101	G2036	G3962
σῶσόν	με	ἐκ	τῆς	ώραν	ταύτης	ἀλλὰ	διὰ	τοῦτο
save	me	from	G3588	hour	G3778	but	cause	for this
G4982	G3165	G1537		G5610		G235	G1223	G5124
ἥλθον	εἰς	τὴν	ώραν	ταύτην				
came I	unto	G3588	hour	G3778				
G2064	G1519		G5610					

Additional Cross-References

John 12:23 (Parallel theme): And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.

Hebrews 5:7 (Salvation): Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Isaiah 38:15 (Parallel theme): What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

Matthew 26:42 (Parallel theme): He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

John 13:21 (Parallel theme): When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

Hebrews 2:14 (Parallel theme): Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Luke 22:44 (Parallel theme): And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

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