

John 12:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him:

Analysis

Despite 'so many miracles,' the majority don't believe, fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy (Is 53:1). The Greek construction emphasizes stubborn unbelief despite overwhelming evidence. Miracles authenticate Jesus' claims but don't guarantee belief—faith requires spiritual regeneration, not merely empirical proof. This demonstrates total depravity: even undeniable evidence doesn't penetrate unregenerate hearts. Their unbelief validates Jesus' earlier teaching about needing spiritual birth (3:3). The fulfillment of Isaiah proves God's sovereignty over even human rebellion.

Historical Context

John records numerous signs throughout his Gospel (2:11; 4:54; 6:14; 11:47). The crowd's persistent unbelief despite these validates the necessity of divine regeneration for faith.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What does persistent unbelief despite evidence teach about human depravity?
2. How does this demonstrate that faith requires spiritual regeneration, not merely intellectual proof?
3. In what ways do you witness people rejecting clear evidence of God's work?

Interlinear Text

Τοσαῦτα δὲ αὐτόν σημεῖα πεποιηκότος ἔμπροσθεν αὐτόν
so many But him miracles had done before him
G5118 G1161 G846 G4592 G4160 G1715 G846

οὐκ ἐπίστευον εἰς αὐτόν
not yet they believed on him
G3756 G4100 G1519 G846

Additional Cross-References

John 1:11 (Parallel theme): He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Luke 16:31 (Parallel theme): And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Matthew 11:20 (Parallel theme): Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:

John 15:24 (Parallel theme): If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

John 11:42 (Faith): And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.