

John 12:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

Analysis

John explains Isaiah saw 'his glory' (Christ's glory) and spoke of Him, equating Jesus with the LORD of Isaiah 6. This high Christology identifies Jesus as YHWH whom Isaiah saw enthroned in the temple. The prophets saw Christ's glory pre-incarnation, establishing His eternal deity. This demonstrates the Trinity: Isaiah saw the Son's glory while hearing the Father's voice. The connection proves Jesus' pre-existence and deity. Isaiah's vision of divine glory was specifically Christ's glory, though unveiled only in retrospect through New Testament revelation.

Historical Context

Isaiah 6 describes the prophet's vision of the LORD enthroned in glory. John's identification of this LORD as Jesus establishes Christ's deity and equality with the Father, countering early Christological heresies.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does John's interpretation demonstrate Christ's eternal deity and pre-existence?
2. What does Isaiah seeing Christ's glory teach about Old Testament Christophanies?
3. In what ways does progressive revelation help us understand Old Testament theophanies as Christ-encounters?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| ταῦτα | εἶπεν | Ἡσαΐας | ὅτε | εἶδεν | τὴν | δόξαν | αὐτοῦ |
| These things | said | Esaias | when | he saw | G3588 | glory | him |
| G5023 | G2036 | G2268 | G3753 | G1492 | | G1391 | G846 |

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| καὶ | ἐλάλησεν | περὶ | αὐτοῦ |
| and | spake | of | him |
| G2532 | G2980 | G4012 | G846 |

Additional Cross-References

John 1:18 (Parallel theme): No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Hebrews 1:3 (Glory): Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Acts 10:43 (Parallel theme): To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

John 1:14 (Glory): And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

2 Corinthians 4:6 (Glory): For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

