

John 14:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

Analysis

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you (Ταῦτα λελάληκα ὑμῖν παρ' ὑμῖν μένων)—Jesus pauses His discourse to mark a transition. The demonstrative Ταῦτα (these things) refers to the preceding teaching about Father's house, the way, mutual indwelling, answered prayer, and the coming Paraclete. The perfect tense λελάληκα (lélalēka) emphasizes completed action with continuing results—'I have spoken and this teaching remains.'

The participle μένων (menōn, abiding/remaining) indicates His current physical presence with them. The phrase παρ' ὑμῖν (with/beside you) denotes proximity, companionship—Jesus is still physically, tangibly present. This creates poignant contrast with imminent departure. He's teaching them while still present because soon He will be absent (physically, though not spiritually via the Spirit).

This verse functions as hinge between Jesus's teaching about His departure and the promise of the Spirit who will continue His teaching ministry. The ἔτι (yet/still) carries temporal urgency—'while I'm still here, let me tell you this.' There's limited time remaining for physical instruction, so He concentrates essential truth. The perfect tense suggests these aren't casual remarks but definitive revelation to be remembered, treasured, pondered.

The simple statement 'being yet present with you' carries emotional weight. Within hours He'll be arrested, crucified, buried. This is farewell discourse—last words

before departure. The disciples don't fully grasp the significance, but Jesus knows these are His final instructions before crucifixion. Every word matters.

Historical Context

This comes within the Upper Room Discourse (John 13-17), delivered on Passover evening, hours before Jesus's arrest in Gethsemane. The setting is intimate—Jesus reclining at table with the Twelve (minus Judas Iscariot, who left after receiving the sop, John 13:30). The atmosphere is heavy with coming separation, confusion, and grief.

In ancient Jewish pedagogy, rabbis taught disciples through extended personal contact. Learning happened in life-sharing, not just formal instruction. The rabbi's physical presence mattered enormously—students watched, listened, questioned, absorbed. Jesus acknowledges this paradigm ('being yet present with you') while preparing them for dramatic shift: physical absence, spiritual presence through the Paraclete.

The Upper Room Discourse as a whole constitutes Jesus's 'last will and testament'—final instructions before death. Ancient literature contains many 'farewell discourses' (Jacob in Genesis 49, Moses in Deuteronomy 33, Paul in Acts 20:17-38). These speeches typically reviewed the past, addressed the present, and prepared for the future. They carried special authority and solemnity.

For John's audience decades later, this verse validated the Gospel's teachings as Jesus's own words, spoken during His earthly ministry. Against false teachers claiming new revelations, John anchors his Gospel in historical testimony: these are the things Jesus spoke while physically present, before crucifixion and resurrection, authenticated by eyewitnesses.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How should the fact that Jesus carefully taught 'while yet present' before His departure shape our reverence for and attention to His recorded words?
2. What does Jesus's statement about teaching 'these things' while physically present suggest about the completeness and sufficiency of His revelation before the Spirit's coming?
3. How does recognizing the Upper Room setting—Jesus's final hours before arrest—intensify the weight and urgency of His teaching in John 14-16?

Interlinear Text

Ταῦτα	λελάληκα	ὑμῖν	παρ'	ὑμῖν	μένων·
These things	have I spoken	unto you	with	unto you	being yet present
G5023	G2980	G5213	G3844	G5213	G3306

Additional Cross-References

John 13:19 (Parallel theme): Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.

John 16:12 (Parallel theme): I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.