

John 14:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

Analysis

But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence (ἀλλ' ἵνα γνῶ ὁ κόσμος ὅτι ἀγαπῶ τὸν πατέρα, καὶ καθὼς ἐνετείλατο μοί ὁ πατήρ, οὕτως ποιῶ. ἐγείρεσθε, ἄγωμεν ἐντεῦθεν, all' hina gnō ho kosmos hoti agapō ton patera, kai kathōs eneteilato moi ho patēr, houtōs poiō. egeiresthe, agōmen enteuthen)—Jesus explains His voluntary death: not Satan's victory but demonstration of His love for the Father. **I love the Father** (ἀγαπῶ τὸν πατέρα, agapō ton patera) using ἀγαπάω (agapaō, covenant love) shows the cross reveals Trinitarian love—the Son's obedience to the Father's redemptive plan. **As the Father gave me commandment, even so I do** (καθὼς ἐνετείλατο μοί ὁ πατήρ, οὕτως ποιῶ, kathōs eneteilato moi ho patēr, houtōs poiō)—perfect obedience to the Father's will. **Arise, let us go hence**—they leave the Upper Room for Gethsemane.

The cross is the supreme demonstration of the Son's love for the Father—willing obedience unto death (Philippians 2:8). This reframes the atonement: not merely God satisfying His wrath, but the Son joyfully honoring the Father by accomplishing redemption. The world sees God's love (John 3:16) and intra-Trinitarian love displayed at Calvary.

Historical Context

This marks the transition from Upper Room discourse to Gethsemane. Chapters 15-17 may have been spoken en route or in the garden. Jesus went willingly, demonstrating the cross was voluntary submission to the Father's plan, not forced by circumstances or enemies.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does viewing the cross as Jesus's love-demonstration to the Father enrich our understanding of atonement?
2. What does Jesus's perfect obedience teach about true love—that it submits to God's will even when costly?
3. How should Christians imitate Jesus's obedience to the Father's commands as demonstration of our love for God?

Interlinear Text

ἀλλ'	ἵνα	γινῶ	ὁ	κόσμος	ὅτι	ἀγαπῶ	τὸν	πατὴρ
But	that	may know	G3588	the world	that	I love	G3588	the Father
G235	G2443	G1097		G2889	G3754	G25		G3962
καὶ	καθὼς	ἐνετείλατο	μοι	ὁ	πατὴρ	οὕτως	ποιῶ	
and	as	commandment	me	G3588	the Father	even so	I do	
G2532	G2531	G1781	G3427		G3962	G3779	G4160	
Ἐγείρεσθε	ἄγωμεν	ἐντεῦθεν						
Arise	let us go	hence						
G1453	G71	G1782						

Additional Cross-References

John 10:18 (Word): No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Philippians 2:8 (Parallel theme): And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

John 12:49 (Word): For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

John 4:34 (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

Luke 12:50 (Parallel theme): But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!

Psalms 40:8 (Word): I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

John 15:9 (Love): As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

Matthew 26:39 (Parallel theme): And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

John 18:11 (Word): Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?

John 12:27 (Parallel theme): 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.

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