

John 16:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.

Analysis

Now are we sure that thou knowest all things (νῦν οἴδαμεν ὅτι οἴδας πάντα)—The disciples confess Jesus's omniscience, a divine attribute. The verb oidas (οἴδας) means intuitive, complete knowledge—Jesus doesn't need to ask questions to learn information; He already knows. This echoes John 2:25: "He knew what was in man."

And needest not that any man should ask thee (καὶ οὐ χρείαν ἔχεις ἵνα τίς σε ἐρωτᾷ)—Jesus had anticipated their questions (16:19) before they voiced them, demonstrating supernatural knowledge. The disciples recognize this isn't mere perceptiveness but divine foreknowledge.

By this we believe that thou camest forth from God (ἐν τούτῳ πιστεύομεν ὅτι ἀπὸ θεοῦ ἐξῆλθες)—They conclude that such omniscience proves Jesus's divine origin. Their logic is sound—only God knows all things (1 John 3:20). Yet Jesus's response (v.31-32) suggests their faith, while genuine, remains untested and will soon falter under the cross's trauma.

Historical Context

In rabbinic culture, teachers often answered questions to demonstrate wisdom. But Jesus's supernatural knowledge transcended human wisdom—He knew thoughts before they were spoken (Luke 6:8), future events (Matthew 26:34), and

hidden sins (John 4:17-18). This divine omniscience repeatedly validated His claim to deity, yet the disciples' confession here would be tested when Jesus seemed defeated on the cross.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus's omniscience (knowing all your thoughts, motives, and future) comfort or challenge you?
2. What's the difference between intellectual belief in Jesus's divine knowledge and trust that endures through suffering?
3. Why did the disciples' genuine faith still need testing and strengthening through the crucifixion and resurrection?

Interlinear Text

νῦν	οἶδας	ὅτι	οἶδας	πάντα	καὶ	οὐ	χρείαν	ἔχεις
Now	are we sure	that	are we sure	all things	and	not	needest	G2192
G3568	G1492	G3754	G1492	G3956	G2532	G3756	G5532	

ἴνα	τίς	σε	ἐρωτᾷ·	ἐν	τούτῳ	πιστεύομεν	ὅτι	ἀπὸ
that	any man	thee	should ask	by	this	we believe	that	from
G2443	G5100	G4571	G2065	G1722	G5129	G4100	G3754	G575

θεοῦ	ἐξῆλθες
God	thou camest forth
G2316	G1831

Additional Cross-References

John 21:17 (Parallel theme): He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Hebrews 4:13 (Parallel theme): Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

John 17:8 (Faith): For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

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