John 2:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

Analysis

Jesus needed no human testimony about anyone—'he knew what was in man.' This omniscience distinguishes Him from other teachers. He didn't need informants or investigations; He perceived hearts directly. This knowledge both protected Him from false disciples and enabled Him to reach the genuinely seeking. It also explains why He could trust some (like Nathanael) while withholding trust from others.

Historical Context

This verse establishes a theme developed throughout John—Jesus knows hearts (1:47-48, 4:29, 6:64, 13:11). This knowledge enabled Him to teach appropriately, to choose disciples wisely, and to anticipate betrayal. It also confirms His deity—only God knows hearts (Jeremiah 17:10).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' perfect knowledge of human hearts comfort and challenge you?
2. What does it mean that Jesus knows 'what is in man' regarding your own heart?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ὅτι	οὐ	χρείαν	εἶχεν	ἵνα	τις	μαρτυρήσῃ	περὶ	τοῦ
And	G3754	not	needed	G2192	that	any	should testify	of	G3588
G2532		G3756	G5532		G2443	G5100	G3140	G4012	

ἀνθρώπῳ	αὐτὸς	γὰρ	ἐγίνωσκεν	τί	ἦν	ἐν	τῷ
man	he	for	knew	what	was	in	G3588
G444	G846	G1063	G1097	G5101	G2258	G1722	

ἀνθρώπῳ
man
G444

Additional Cross-References

John 13:11 (Parallel theme): For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

Matthew 9:4 (Parallel theme): And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

John 6:64 (Parallel theme): But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

John 6:61 (Parallel theme): When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?