

John 5:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

Analysis

'I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.'

Jesus reaffirms dependence on the Father—not inadequacy but perfect alignment. His judgment is just because it reflects the Father's will, not personal agenda. Independence from the Father would mean injustice; dependence ensures righteousness. The Son's submission guarantees judgment's justice.

Historical Context

This returns to verse 19's theme of Father-Son unity. Far from claiming autonomous power, Jesus emphasizes His work as expressing the Father's will. This subordination in economy (role) doesn't imply subordination in essence (nature). The Son's willing submission demonstrates love, not inferiority.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does seeking the Father's will ensure just judgment?
2. What does Jesus' dependence on the Father teach about doing God's will?

Interlinear Text

οὐ δύναμαι ἐγὼ ποιεῖν ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ οὐδέν· καθὼς
not can I do of mine own self G3762 as
G3756 G1410 G1473 G4160 G575 G1683 G2531

ἀκούω κρίνω καὶ ἡ κρίσις ἡ ἐμὸν δικαία ἐστίν
I hear I judge and G3588 judgment G3588 mine own just is
G191 G2919 G2532 G2920 G1699 G1342 G2076

ὅτι οὐ ζητῶ τὸ θέλημα τὸ ἐμὸν ἀλλὰ τὸ
because not I seek G3588 the will G3588 mine own but G3588
G3754 G3756 G2212 G2307 G1699 G235

θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με πατρός
the will G3588 hath sent me of the Father
G2307 G3992 G3165 G3962

Additional Cross-References

John 6:38 (Parallel theme): For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 5:19 (Parallel theme): Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

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.

John 14:10 (Parallel theme): Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

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 8:28 (Parallel theme): Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

Romans 15:3 (Parallel theme): For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

John 8:42 (Parallel theme): Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

John 8:50 (Judgment): And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

Psalms 96:13 (Righteousness): Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.