

John 5:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I receive not testimony from man: but these things I say,
that ye might be saved.

Analysis

Jesus clarifies His purpose in citing John's testimony: 'that ye might be saved.' He doesn't need human witness for His own validation but offers it for their benefit. This reveals Christ's gracious condescension—He provides multiple witnesses suited to human understanding to enable salvation. God's self-revelation aims at redemption, not mere vindication.

Historical Context

Jesus' statement reveals His redemptive heart even toward opponents. He multiplies witnesses not to win arguments but to win souls, showing patience with unbelief and provision of abundant evidence.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God graciously provide multiple witnesses and evidences suited to our understanding?

2. What does Christ's patient provision of evidence teach about evangelism and apologetics?

Interlinear Text

ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ παρὰ ἀνθρώπου τὴν μαρτυρίαν λαμβάνω
I But not from man ^{G3588} **testimony** **receive**
G1473 G1161 G3756 G3844 G444 G3141 G2983

ἀλλὰ ταῦτα λέγω ἵνα ὑμεῖς σωθῆτε
but these things I say that ye might be saved
G235 G5023 G3004 G2443 G5210 G4982

Additional Cross-References

1 John 5:9 (Witness): If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

John 20:31 (Parallel theme): But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.