

John 5:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I receive not honour from men.

Analysis

Jesus declares 'I receive not honour from men,' indicating that human approval is neither His goal nor need. His mission proceeds from the Father's will, not popular acclaim. This statement contrasts sharply with the religious leaders who craved human honor (v. 44). Christ's independence from human validation models true spiritual leadership.

Historical Context

In a culture that highly valued honor and shame, Jesus' indifference to human acclaim was radical. Religious and political leaders constantly sought public approval; Christ consistently rejected this motivation.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does seeking human approval compromise spiritual ministry and mission?
2. What does Christ's independence from human honor teach about true authority and leadership?

Interlinear Text

Δόξαν	παρὰ	ἀνθρώπων	οὐ	λαμβάνω
honour	from	men	not	I receive
G1391	G3844	G444	G3756	G2983

Additional Cross-References

John 7:18 (Parallel theme): He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

1 Thessalonians 2:6 (Parallel theme): Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.

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

John 5:34 (Parallel theme): But I receive not testimony from man: but these things I say, that ye might be saved.