

John 5:46

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.

Analysis

'For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.' Moses, whom they claimed to follow, wrote about Christ. If they truly believed Moses, they would recognize the one Moses anticipated. The Pentateuch contains messianic prophecy—the seed of the woman, Shiloh, the Prophet like Moses. Genuine faith in Moses leads to faith in Christ; claiming Moses while rejecting Christ reveals false profession.

Historical Context

This challenges the religious leaders' claimed Mosaic authority. Moses pointed forward; Christ is the fulfillment. Genesis 3:15, 49:10, Deuteronomy 18:15-19 all anticipate Christ. Those who truly understood Moses recognized Jesus as fulfillment. Those who rejected Jesus proved they didn't truly believe Moses.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' writing point to Christ?

2. What does rejection of Christ reveal about claimed faith in Old Testament Scripture?

Interlinear Text

εἰ	γὰρ	ἐπιστεύετε	Μωσῆς	ἐπιστεύετε	ἀν	ἐμοί·	περὶ
G1487	For	had ye believed	Moses	had ye believed	G302	me	of
G1063		G4100	G3475	G4100		G1698	G4012
γὰρ ἐμοῦ ἐκεῖνος ἔγραψεν							
For	me	he	wrote				
G1063	G1700	G1565	G1125				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 18:15 (Parallel theme): The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

John 1:45 (References Moses): Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

Luke 24:27 (References Moses): And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Acts 26:22 (References Moses): Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

Genesis 49:10 (Parallel theme): The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

Genesis 22:18 (Parallel theme): And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 12:3 (Parallel theme): And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 3:15 (Parallel theme): And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 18:18 (Parallel theme): Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

Genesis 28:14 (Parallel theme): And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

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