

John 6:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid.

Analysis

Jesus' words 'It is I; be not afraid' (Greek: *egō eimi*) use the divine name (Exodus 3:14) while offering comfort. His self-identification transforms fear to peace. The command 'be not afraid' appears throughout Scripture when God reveals Himself —His presence is meant to comfort, not terrify, His people.

Historical Context

The '*egō eimi*' (I AM) declaration links Jesus to Yahweh's self-revelation to Moses. What appeared as a terrifying apparition reveals itself as the Lord's gracious presence with His disciples.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing Jesus' presence transform our fear into peace?
2. What is the significance of Jesus' use of 'I AM' in this context of revelation and comfort?

Interlinear Text

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|-------|-------|----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| ο | δὲ | λέγει | αὐτοῖς | Ἐγώ | εἰμι | μὴ | φοβεῖσθε |
| G3588 | But | he saith | unto them | I | It is | not | afraid |
| G1161 | G3004 | | G846 | G1473 | G1510 | G3361 | G5399 |

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 44:8 (Parallel theme): Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Isaiah 41:10 (Parallel theme): Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isaiah 41:14 (Parallel theme): Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

Mark 6:50 (Parallel theme): For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

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