

John 6:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Analysis

This verse presents the dual movement of salvation: divine sovereignty and human response. The opening 'All that the Father giveth me' (pan ho didosin moi ho pater) emphasizes the Father's elective giving - souls are given as a gift to the Son. The promise 'shall come to me' indicates certainty, not mere possibility. The second clause 'him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out' employs the strongest Greek negation (ou me ekbalo exo), guaranteeing acceptance. This balances divine election with human responsibility - those given will come, and all who come will be received. The passive voice 'is given' indicates divine initiative, while 'cometh' requires human response. Jesus presents Himself as perfectly faithful to receive all who approach, regardless of their past or worthiness. This verse addresses the anxiety of potential believers: will Christ accept me?

Historical Context

Within the Bread of Life discourse, this verse addresses Jewish concerns about who may receive Messiah's benefits. In first-century Judaism, debates about election and covenant inclusion were central - who belonged to God's people? Jesus reframes the question: the Father gives people to the Son, and the Son receives all who come. This challenged both Jewish exclusivism and anticipated Gentile inclusion. Reformed theology has emphasized this verse in articulating doctrines of election and perseverance - those given by the Father will certainly come, and those who come will never be rejected. Arminian theology emphasizes the universal invitation implicit in 'whosoever cometh.' Church history shows this

verse provided assurance to anxious sinners in every generation, countering the fear that one's sin might be too great for Christ's acceptance.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do divine election and human responsibility coexist in this verse without contradiction?
2. What assurance does Jesus' promise never to cast out those who come provide for anxious seekers?

Interlinear Text

Πᾶν	ὅ	δίδωσίν	μοι	ό	πατὴρ	πρός	ἐμὲ	ἥξει	καὶ
All	that	giveth	me	G3588	the Father	to	me	shall come	and
G3956	G3739	G1325	G3427		G3962	G4314	G1691	G2240	G2532
τὸν	ἐρχόμενον	πρός	με	οὐ	μὴ	ἐκβάλω	ἔξω		
G3588	him that cometh	to	me	G3756	G3361	I will	out		
	G2064	G4314	G3165			G1544	G1854		

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 11:28 (Parallel theme): Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

John 6:39 (Parallel theme): And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

John 17:24 (Parallel theme): Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

John 17:2 (Parallel theme): As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

John 17:6 (Parallel theme): I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

Isaiah 55:7 (Parallel theme): Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2 Timothy 2:19 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Hebrews 4:15 (Parallel theme): For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Isaiah 42:3 (Parallel theme): A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

1 Timothy 1:16 (Parallel theme): Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.