

John 6:47

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

Analysis

'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.' Simple, emphatic declaration: belief equals possession of eternal life. Present tense 'hath' (echei) indicates current possession, not merely future hope. Eternal life begins at faith, continues through death, and culminates in resurrection. This is John's repeated theme—faith brings immediate, ongoing, and ultimate life.

Historical Context

This statement summarizes John's Gospel purpose (20:31). Eternal life is not earned by works or awaited in purgatory but possessed now through faith. The double 'verily' emphasizes certainty. This verse has been foundational to evangelical assurance.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to 'have' eternal life now rather than merely expect it in the future?

2. How does present possession of eternal life affect daily living?

Interlinear Text

ἀμὴν	ἀμὴν	λέγω	ὑμῖν	ό	πιστεύων	εἰς	ἐμὲ,	ἔχει
Verily	Verily	I say	unto you	G3588	He that believeth	on	me	hath
G281	G281	G3004	G5213		G4100	G1519	G1691	G2192

ζωὴν αἰώνιον
life everlasting
G2222 G166

Additional Cross-References

John 3:36 (Faith): He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 5:24 (Faith): Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 3:16 (Faith): For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:18 (Faith): He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 6:54 (Eternal Life): Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:40 (Faith): And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 14:19 (Parallel theme): Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

