

John 7:47

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived?

Analysis

Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? The Pharisees respond with contempt. The question 'Are ye also deceived?' (mē kai humeis pepla nēsthe) dismisses the officers' testimony as proof of deception. This reveals the Pharisees' closed-mindedness—anyone impressed by Jesus must be deceived. They cannot consider that they might be wrong. This demonstrates hardened unbelief that refuses evidence. Reformed theology recognizes judicial hardening—persistent rejection leads to increased blindness (Romans 1:18-32).

Historical Context

The Pharisees viewed themselves as theological experts and religious guards against deception. Anyone disagreeing must be deceived or ignorant. This proud dogmatism blinded them to truth standing before them. History repeats this pattern—religious elites often reject truth that threatens their position. The Reformation faced similar accusations from Catholic hierarchy. Today's skeptics similarly dismiss Christian faith as delusion, refusing genuine investigation.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does pride in one's theological knowledge become barrier to truth?
2. What warnings should religious leaders heed from the Pharisees' example?
3. How do we avoid similar closed-mindedness toward truth?

Interlinear Text

ἀπεκρίθησαν	οὖν	αὐτοῖς	οἱ	Φαρισαῖοι	Μὴ	καὶ	ὕμεῖς
answered	Then	them	G3588	the Pharisees	G3361	also	ye
G611	G3767	G846		G5330		G2532	G5210

πεπλάνησθε

Are
G4105

Additional Cross-References

John 7:12 (Parallel theme): And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people.

2 Corinthians 6:8 (Parallel theme): By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;