

John 8:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They understood not that he spake to them of the Father.

Analysis

John notes they didn't understand Jesus spoke of the Father. This spiritual blindness despite clear teaching demonstrates the truth of 1 Corinthians 2:14 - natural man cannot receive spiritual things. Understanding requires spiritual illumination, not merely hearing words. This illustrates the Reformed doctrine that regeneration precedes and enables spiritual comprehension.

Historical Context

Despite Jesus' consistent teaching about His relationship with the Father, the religious leaders remained blind to His meaning, demonstrating that spiritual truth requires spiritual capacity to understand.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What causes spiritual blindness even when truth is clearly taught?
2. How does the Spirit enable understanding of spiritual truth?
3. When have you failed to understand Scripture until the Spirit illuminated it?

Interlinear Text

οὐκ	ἔγνωσαν	ὅτι	τὸν	πατέρα	αὐτοῖς	ἔλεγεν
not	They understood	that	G3588	of the Father	to them	he spake
G3756	G1097	G3754		G3962	G846	G3004

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 6:9 (Parallel theme): And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

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