

John 9:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

Analysis

'And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.' Jesus explains the deeper meaning. His coming produces a great reversal: the humble blind receive sight; the proud 'seeing' become blind. Judgment isn't separate from ministry—it occurs through response to Jesus. Those who acknowledge blindness receive sight; those claiming sight remain in darkness.

Historical Context

This reversal appears throughout Luke (1:51-53, 18:14). The proud are humbled; the humble exalted. Jesus' presence reveals hearts—those who recognize need receive help; those who deny need remain helpless.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does response to Jesus function as judgment?
2. Why does claiming to 'see' produce blindness while admitting blindness leads to sight?

Interlinear Text

καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς κρίμα ἐγὼ εἰς τὸν κόσμον
And said G3588 Jesus For judgment I For G3588 world
G2532 G2036 G2424 G1519 G2917 G1473 G1519 G2889

τοῦτον ἥλθον τίνα οἱ μὴ βλέποντες βλέποντες καὶ οἱ
this am come that G3588 not might see might see And G3588
G5126 G2064 G2443 G3361 G991 G991 G2532

βλέποντες τυφλοὶ γένινωνται
might see blind might be made
G991 G5185 G1096

Additional Cross-References

John 3:19 (Parallel theme): And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 12:46 (Parallel theme): I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Acts 26:18 (Parallel theme): To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

John 8:12 (References Jesus): Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

1 John 2:11 (Parallel theme): But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Luke 4:18 (Parallel theme): The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Luke 1:79 (Parallel theme): To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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