

John 9:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?

Analysis

'And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?' The Pharisees sense Jesus speaking about them. Their question expects denial—surely He doesn't mean they're blind? Their confidence in their own spiritual perception prevents them from receiving Jesus' light. The question reveals defensive pride rather than genuine inquiry.

Historical Context

This sets up Jesus' devastating final response. The Pharisees considered themselves Israel's guides, not blind themselves. Jesus' teaching threatened their entire self-understanding. Their rhetorical question expects Jesus to exempt them.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Why is the Pharisees' question defensive rather than genuine?
2. How does confidence in our own spiritual insight prevent receiving Christ's light?

Interlinear Text

καὶ Ἡκουσαν ἐκ οἱ Φαρισαίων ταῦτα οἱ
And heard some of which the Pharisees these words which
G2532 G191 G1537 G3588 G5330 G5023 G3588

ὅντες μετ' αὐτῷ καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ Μή καὶ ἡμεῖς τυφλοί
were with him And said him Are And we blind
G5607 G3326 G846 G2532 G2036 G846 G3361 G2532 G2249 G5185

ἐσμεν
G2070

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 3:17 (Parallel theme): Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

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