

Luke 12:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Analysis

Jesus comforts disciples: 'Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.' The address 'little flock' acknowledges their small number and vulnerability yet assures divine care. The phrase 'your Father' emphasizes relationship—God is not distant ruler but loving Father. 'Good pleasure' (Greek 'eudokēsen,' εὐδόκησεν) indicates God's delight in giving the kingdom—He wants to give it, not reluctantly grants it. This promise transforms perspective—the kingdom comes by grace, not works. Fear dissolves when we understand the Father's generous heart toward His children.

Historical Context

This came during Jesus' teaching about anxiety and trusting God's provision (vv. 22-31). First-century disciples were indeed a 'little flock'—a tiny minority in the Roman Empire, facing opposition from religious and political powers. The kingdom promise sustained them through persecution. 'Kingdom' (Greek 'basileia,' βασιλεία) means both God's reign and the realm where He reigns—present spiritual reality and future eternal inheritance. The Father's 'good pleasure' to give it reveals grace's heart—God delights in blessing His children. Early Christians clung to this promise during persecution, knowing their inheritance was secure.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does understanding that it's the Father's 'good pleasure' to give the kingdom transform our approach to spiritual life and discipleship?
2. What does calling disciples 'little flock' teach about the church's size and vulnerability, yet also God's care and ultimate victory?

Interlinear Text

Μὴ φοβοῦ τὸ μικρὸν ποίμνιον ὅτι εὐδόκησεν ὁ
not **Fear** G3588 **little** **flock** **for** **good pleasure** G3588
G3361 G5399 G3398 G4168 G3754 G2106

πατὴρ ὑμῶν δοῦναι ὑμῖν τὴν βασιλείαν
Father's **your** **to give** **you** G3588 **the kingdom**
G3962 G5216 G1325 G5213 G932

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 12:28 (Kingdom): Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Revelation 1:6 (Kingdom): And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 2:13 (Good): For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Luke 10:21 (Good): In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.

Matthew 25:34 (Kingdom): Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Isaiah 40:11 (Parallel theme): He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

2 Thessalonians 1:11 (Good): Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

Matthew 14:27 (Good): But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

2 Peter 1:11 (Kingdom): For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 3:19 (Good): But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me.