

Luke 12:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

Analysis

Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing
(μακάριος ὁ δοῦλος ἐκεῖνος, ὃν ἐλθὼν ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ εὑρήσει ποιοῦντα οὕτως,
makarios ho doulos ekeinos, hon elthōn ho kyrios autou heurēsei poiounta houtōs)
—The beatitude makarios (μακάριος, blessed, happy) pronounces divine favor on the faithful steward. The temporal participle elthōn (ἐλθὼν, when he comes) points to the master's return—eschatologically, Christ's second coming. The future tense heurēsei (εὑρήσει, will find) anticipates divine evaluation.

The crucial phrase is poiounta houtōs (ποιοῦντα οὕτως, doing so)—the present active participle indicates ongoing, continuous action. The blessed servant is not merely occasionally faithful but consistently performing his assigned task when the master returns. The adverb houtōs (οὕτως, so, in this manner) refers to verse 42's description: faithfully giving household members their food portions at the proper time. True stewardship isn't demonstrated by initial enthusiasm or intention but by persevering faithfulness found in actual practice at the moment of accounting. Christ evaluates not profession but performance, not intentions but actions, not past service but present fidelity.

Historical Context

This beatitude parallels Luke 12:37's blessing on watchful servants. Both emphasize being found faithful at the master's unexpected return. Early Christian teaching stressed perseverance to the end (Matthew 24:13, Hebrews 3:14,

Revelation 2:10). Temporary faithfulness followed by apostasy results in condemnation (Ezekiel 18:24, Hebrews 10:38-39). The warning against spiritual complacency was urgent in the early church, as some believers abandoned their posts (2 Timothy 4:10) or returned to sin (2 Peter 2:20-22). Only those found faithful at Christ's coming will receive the blessing and reward.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does being found 'so doing' at Christ's return reveal about the necessity of persevering faithfulness versus initial enthusiasm?
2. How should the certainty of divine evaluation motivate daily stewardship of responsibilities, gifts, and opportunities?
3. In what areas of life might you be at risk of abandoning faithful stewardship due to the apparent delay of Christ's return?

Interlinear Text

μακάριος ὁ δοῦλος ἐκεῖνος ὅν ἔλθων ὁ
Blessed G3588 servant G1401 is that G1565 whom G3739 when he cometh G2064 G3588

κύριος αὐτοῦ εὑρήσει ποιοῦντα οὕτως
Lord G2962 his G846 shall find G2147 doing G4160 so G3779