

Luke 12:54

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is.

Analysis

And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is (Ἐλεγεν δὲ καὶ τοῖς ὄχλοις, Ὅταν ἴδητε τὴν νεφέλην ἀνατέλλουσιν ἀπὸ δυσμῶν, εὐθέως λέγετε, Ὅμβρος ἔρχεται· καὶ γίνεται οὕτως)—Jesus shifts from division to discernment, addressing ochlois (crowds). Palestinian meteorology was observable: clouds from the west (Mediterranean Sea) brought rain. Eutheos (straightway, immediately) indicates instant recognition. **And so it is** (καὶ γίνεται οὕτως)—their predictions prove accurate.

Jesus uses weather-reading ability to indict spiritual blindness. They expertly interpret natural signs but miss prophetic fulfillment standing before them. This introduces his critique (vv.54-56): they're weather-smart but messiah-blind, demonstrating selective perception serving their interests.

Historical Context

In Mediterranean climate, westerly winds from the sea brought moisture and rain, while southern desert winds (v.55) brought scorching heat. This pattern was reliable enough for agricultural planning. Jesus uses universally recognized meteorological knowledge to expose their selective discernment—they see what they want to see.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'signs' do you expertly read in your areas of interest while remaining blind to spiritual realities?
2. How does selective perception prevent you from recognizing God's work or word?
3. What uncomfortable spiritual 'weather patterns' might you be deliberately ignoring?

Interlinear Text

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|--------------|--------|----------|-------------|---------------|----------|--------|-------|---------|
| λέγετε | δὲ | καὶ | τοῖς | ὄχλοις | Ὅταν | ἴδητε | τὴν | νεφέλην |
| he said | And | also | G3588 | to the people | When | ye see | G3588 | a cloud |
| G3004 | G1161 | G2532 | | G3793 | G3752 | G1492 | | G3507 |
| ἀνατέλλουσιν | ἀπὸ | δυσμῶν | εὐθέως | λέγετε | Ὅμβρος | | | |
| rise | out of | the west | straightway | he said | a shower | | | |
| G393 | G575 | G1424 | G2112 | G3004 | G3655 | | | |
| ἔρχεται | καὶ | γίνεται | οὕτως· | | | | | |
| There cometh | also | it is | so | | | | | |
| G2064 | G2532 | G1096 | G3779 | | | | | |