

Luke 19:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

Analysis

Jesus weeps over Jerusalem: 'If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.' The phrase 'if thou hadst known' expresses tragic missed opportunity. 'The things which belong unto thy peace' (Greek 'ta pros eirēnēn,' τὰ πρὸς εἰρήνην) refers to Jesus Himself—the Prince of Peace whose offer Jerusalem rejected. The judgment 'now they are hid from thine eyes' indicates divine hardening—their rejection led to judicial blindness. Rejecting revelation results in losing the ability to receive it. Jesus' tears show His compassionate heart even toward those who would crucify Him.

Historical Context

This occurred during Jesus' triumphal entry (vv. 37-38). As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it (v. 41). The irony is profound—the crowd praised Him as Messiah, yet the city would reject and crucify Him within days. Jesus prophesied Jerusalem's destruction (vv. 43-44), fulfilled in AD 70 when Rome destroyed the city and temple. The phrase 'in this thy day' refers to their opportunity—the time of Messiah's visitation. Their rejection sealed their judgment. Jesus' tears reveal His heart—He genuinely desired their salvation, yet respected their free rejection. God's sovereignty and human responsibility coexist mysteriously.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What do Jesus' tears over Jerusalem reveal about His heart toward those who reject Him?
2. How does the phrase 'now they are hid from thine eyes' illustrate the terrifying consequence of rejecting revelation—loss of ability to receive it?

Interlinear Text

λέγων	ὅτι	Εἰ	ἔγνων	καὶ	σὺ	καὶ	γε	ἐν
Saying	If	G1487	thou hadst known	even	thou	even	at least	in
G3004	G3754		G1097	G2532	G4771	G2532	G1065	G1722
τὰ	ἡμέρα	σου·	ταύτη	τὰ	πρὸς	εἰρήνην		
the things	day	thine	G3778	the things	which belong unto	peace		
G3588	G2250	G4675		G3588	G4314	G1515		
σου·	νῦν	δὲ	ἐκρύβη	ἀπὸ	ὀφθαλμῶν	σου·		
thine	now	! but	they are hid	from	eyes	thine		
G4675	G3568	G1161	G2928	G575	G3788	G4675		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 32:29 (Parallel theme): O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!

Hebrews 3:15 (Parallel theme): While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

Isaiah 48:18 (Peace): O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

Isaiah 55:6 (Parallel theme): Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Acts 10:36 (Peace): The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Hebrews 3:13 (Parallel theme): But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Luke 19:44 (Parallel theme): And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

Isaiah 44:18 (Parallel theme): They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand.

Acts 13:46 (Parallel theme): Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Ezekiel 33:11 (Parallel theme): Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?