

Luke 22:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.

Analysis

For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. Jesus repeats the solemn vow structure from verse 16, again using emphatic double negative: **I will not drink** (οὐ μὴ πῖω, *ou mē piō*, aorist subjunctive with *ou mē*). The fruit of the vine (τοῦ γενήματος τῆς ἀμπέλου, *tou genēmatos tēs ampelou*) is the liturgical phrase for wine in Jewish blessings, emphasizing natural origins—God's gift from vineyard to cup.

Until the kingdom of God shall come (ἕως οὗ ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ θεοῦ ἔλθῃ, *heōs hou hē basileia tou theou elthē*) points to Kingdom consummation. The Kingdom 'comes' in stages: inaugurated at Christ's first advent, advanced through the church age, consummated at His return. Jesus abstains until that final fulfillment when He drinks wine 'new' (Matthew 26:29) with His people at the eschatological banquet. This vow transforms the meal from memorial of past deliverance to anticipation of future glory—communion becomes both remembrance (*anamnēsis*) and foretaste (*prolepsis*) of the coming feast.

Historical Context

Wine symbolized covenant joy throughout Scripture (Psalm 104:15, Proverbs 3:10, John 2:1-11). The messianic age was portrayed as abundant wine (Amos 9:13-14, Joel 3:18). Jesus' vow to abstain heightens the tragedy of the cross—He who would give His blood refuses wine's comfort, taking only the 'cup' of God's wrath (Luke 22:42).

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' abstinence from wine 'until the kingdom comes' affect your understanding of His sacrifice and self-denial?
2. What does it mean that communion is both backward-looking (remembrance) and forward-looking (anticipation of the Kingdom)?
3. How should the promise that Jesus will drink wine 'new' with you in the Kingdom shape your hope and perseverance?

Interlinear Text

λέγω	γὰρ	ὕμῖν	ὅτι	οὐ	μὴ	πίω	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	γεννήματος
I say	For	unto you	G3754	G3756	G3361	I will	of	G3588	the fruit
G3004	G1063	G5213				G4095	G575		G1081
τῆς	ἀμπέλου	ἕως	οὗτου	ἢ	βασιλεία	τοῦ	θεοῦ	ἔλθῃ	
G3588	of the vine	until	G3755	G3588	the kingdom	G3588	of God	shall come	
	G288	G2193			G932		G2316	G2064	

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 26:29 (Kingdom): But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Mark 14:25 (Kingdom): Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Luke 22:16 (Kingdom): For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

