

Luke 6:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

Analysis

Rejoice ye in that day leap for joy for behold your reward great in heaven for in like manner did fathers unto prophets. Rejoice charête be glad. In that day en ekeinē tē hēmera time of persecution. Leap skirtēsate jump exult. For joy chalisis joy. Behold idou pay attention. Reward misthos wage. Great polys substantial. In heaven en ouranō eternal. For gar reason. Like manner kata ta auta similarly. Fathers pateres ancestors. Unto prophets prophētais messengers. Persecution is not punishment but path to blessing. Prophets suffered similarly. Company of faithful. Eternal reward outweighs temporal suffering. Reformed theology emphasizes future glory present suffering. Not prosperity gospel but suffering before glory. Yet joy in midst of suffering.

Historical Context

Context beatitudes blessings persecuted (v. 22). Paradoxical blessing in suffering. Prophets stoned killed (Hebrews 11:36-38). Following Jesus means entering prophetic line suffering faithful. Early church experienced this persecution from Jews Romans. Martyrs rejoiced counted worthy to suffer for name (Acts 5:41). Not masochism but perspective. Eternal weight glory far outweighs light affliction (2 Cor 4:17). Medieval church venerated martyrs. Reformation martyrs at stake sang hymns. Modern comfortable Christianity rarely faces this. But global church many suffer persecution prison death. Perspective of eternal reward enables joyful endurance.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does command to rejoice leap for joy in persecution challenge natural response of despair?
2. What role does eternal perspective play in enabling believers to endure suffering with joy?

Interlinear Text

χαίρετε ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ καὶ σκιρτήσατε ἰδοὺ, γὰρ
Rejoice ye in that ^{G3588} **day and leap for joy behold for**
^{G5463} ^{G1722} ^{G1565} ^{G2250} ^{G2532} ^{G4640} ^{G2400} ^{G1063}

ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν πολὺς ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ· κατὰ
^{G3588} **reward your is great in** ^{G3588} **heaven in**
^{G3408} ^{G5216} ^{G4183} ^{G1722} ^{G3772} ^{G2596}

ταῦτα γὰρ ἐποιοῦν τοῖς προφήταις οἱ πατέρες
the like manner for did ^{G3588} **unto the prophets** ^{G3588} **fathers**
^{G5024} ^{G1063} ^{G4160} ^{G4396} ^{G3962}

αὐτῶν
their
^{G846}

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 21:7 (Parallel theme): He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 3:5 (Parallel theme): He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Revelation 3:12 (Parallel theme): Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Revelation 2:26 (Parallel theme): And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Acts 5:41 (Parallel theme): And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Matthew 5:12 (Prophecy): Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.