

Mark 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

Analysis

Verily I say unto you Whosoever shall not receive kingdom of God as little child shall not enter therein. Verily amēn solemn affirmation. Receive dexētai welcome accept. Kingdom of God basileia. As hōs in manner of. Little child paidion young child. Shall not enter eiselthē access. Therein eis autēn into it. Requirements for kingdom entrance. Must receive like child humble dependent trusting. Cannot earn merit achieve. Must receive as gift. Pride self-sufficiency obstacles. Reformed theology emphasizes salvation is gift by grace through faith. Monergism God alone effects salvation. Synergism human cooperation heresy. Must receive passively not achieve actively.

Historical Context

Childlike receiving contrasts with adult achieving. Children depend receive cannot provide for themselves. Kingdom is gift received not wage earned. Paul Ephesians 2:8-9 gift of God not works. Roman Catholic view faith plus works equals salvation. Protestant view faith alone (which produces works as fruit). Childlike humility recognizes inability need. Pharisees trusted own righteousness (Luke 18:9). Tax collector cried for mercy saved. Modern self-help prosperity gospel contradicts this. Cannot earn merit deserve save self. Must humbly receive what Christ offers.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does receiving kingdom as little child teach about passivity in salvation versus human effort?
2. How does childlike humility dependence contrast with modern self-sufficient self-help approaches?

Interlinear Text

ἀμὴν	λέγω	ὕμῖν	ὃς	ἐὰν	μὴ	δέξεται	τὴν	
Verily	I say	unto you	Whosoever	G1437	G3361	receive	G3588	
G281	G3004	G5213	G3739			G1209		
βασιλείαν	τοῦ	θεοῦ	ὡς	παιδίον	οὐ	μὴ	εἰσέλθῃ	εἰς
the kingdom	G3588	of God	as	a little child	G3756	G3361	enter	G1519
G932		G2316	G5613	G3813			G1525	
αὐτήν								
therein								
G846								

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 18:3 (Kingdom): And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 18:17 (Kingdom): Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.