

Mark 14:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, Verily I say unto you,
One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.

Analysis

As they sat and did eat (ἀνακειμένων αὐτῶν καὶ ἐσθιόντων, anakeimenōn autōn kai esthiontōn)—they reclined (Roman dining posture) while eating the Passover. **Verily I say unto you** (ἀμὲν λέγω ὑμῖν, amēn legō hymin)—Jesus's solemn formula introduces weighty pronouncements. **One of you which eateth with me shall betray me** (εἷς ἐξ ὑμῶν παραδώσει με ὁ ἐσθίων μετ' ἐμοῦ, heis ex hymōn paradōsei me ho esthiōn met emou)—devastating announcement during intimate fellowship.

The phrase "eateth with me" emphasizes covenant betrayal—sharing meals created sacred bonds in ancient Near Eastern culture. Judas wasn't a distant enemy but an intimate friend. This fulfills Psalm 41:9: "mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." The present participle "eateth" (ὁ ἐσθίων) shows the betrayer was currently at table—the horror of Judas eating covenant meal while plotting treachery. Yet Jesus's foreknowledge didn't prevent His love—He shared this final meal knowing full well Judas's intent.

Historical Context

Sharing meals signified covenant loyalty and friendship in ancient culture. Betrayal by a table companion was considered the ultimate treachery (Psalm 41:9). Jesus's announcement during Passover—the meal celebrating deliverance—carried profound irony: deliverance would come through betrayal and death. The disciples'

shocked response (v. 19) shows they trusted one another and couldn't fathom such betrayal. Yet Jesus's prediction prepared them—when betrayal occurred, they would know He foresaw it and wasn't a passive victim but willingly gave Himself.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does betrayal by an intimate friend (one "eating with me") deepen understanding of Jesus's suffering?
2. What does Jesus's continued fellowship with Judas despite knowing his intent reveal about divine patience and grace?
3. How should Jesus's fulfillment of Psalm 41:9 strengthen confidence in His messianic identity and Scripture's reliability?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἀνακειμένων	αὐτῶν	καὶ	ἐσθίων	εἶπεν	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	
And	sat	as they	And	did eat	said	which	Jesus	
G2532	G345	G846	G2532	G2068	G2036	G3588	G2424	
Ἀμὲν	λέγω	ὑμῖν	ὅτι	εἷς	ἐξ	ὑμῶν	παραδώσει	με
Verily	I say	unto you	G3754	One	of	you	shall betray	me
G281	G3004	G5213		G1520	G1537	G5216	G3860	G3165
ὁ	ἐσθίων	μετ'	ἐμοῦ					
which	did eat	with	me					
G3588	G2068	G3326	G1700					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 41:9 (Parallel theme): Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

John 6:47 (Parallel theme): Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

John 6:70 (References Jesus): Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org