

Mark 7:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Analysis

Mark 7:23 This passage continues Mark's fast-paced narrative demonstrating Jesus' divine authority, miraculous power, and confrontation with religious establishment. The theological themes include Christ's deity, sacrificial mission, call to discipleship, and inauguration of God's kingdom. Reformed interpretation emphasizes sovereign grace, substitutionary atonement, and transformation through regeneration.

Historical Context

First-century Palestinian Jewish context under Roman occupation shapes the narrative. Archaeological discoveries confirm Gospel accounts' historical accuracy. Ancient sources (Josephus, Tacitus) corroborate biblical timeline and cultural details. Early church fathers interpreted these Christologically, seeing Old Testament fulfillment and New Covenant establishment.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse reveal Christ's person and work in redemptive history?

2. What transformation should this truth produce in your thinking, affections, and behavior?

Interlinear Text

πάντα ταῦτα τὰ πονηρὰ ἔσωθεν ἐκπορεύεται καὶ
All these G3588 evil things G4190 from within G2081 come G1607 and G2532
κοινοῖ τὸν ἄνθρωπον
defile G3588 the man G444

Additional Cross-References

Mark 7:15 (Parallel theme): There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.

1 Corinthians 3:17 (Parallel theme): If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Titus 1:15 (Parallel theme): Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

Mark 7:18 (Parallel theme): And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him;

Jude 1:8 (Evil): Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.