

Matthew 16:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

Analysis

Reformed theology emphasizes the divine initiative evident in this text. The verse connects to broader biblical themes of covenant, redemption, and God's unchanging character. Understanding this passage requires recognizing both its historical context and its application to Christian life.

Historical Context

First-century Palestine was marked by religious fervor and political tension. The passage reflects interactions between Jesus and various groups: Pharisees, Sadducees, disciples, and crowds. Each audience received teaching tailored to their needs and spiritual condition.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ?
2. What false beliefs or practices does this text correct?

3. How should you share this truth with others?

Interlinear Text

πῶς	οὐ	νοεῖτε	ὅτι	οὐ	περὶ	ἄρτου	εἶπον
How	it not	understand	is it that	it not	concerning	bread	that I spake
G4459	G3756	G3539	G3754	G3756	G4012	G740	G2036
ὑμῖν	προσέχειν	ἀπὸ	τῆς	ζύμης	τῶν	Φαρισαίων	
to you	that ye should beware	of	G3588	the leaven	G3588	of the Pharisees	
G5213	G4337	G575		G2219		G5330	
καὶ	Σαδδουκαίων						
and	of the Sadducees						
G2532	G4523						

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 16:6 (Resurrection): Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Mark 4:40 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Mark 8:21 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, How is it that ye do not understand?

John 8:43 (Parallel theme): Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

Luke 12:56 (Parallel theme): Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?