

# 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

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|        |                       |            |            |        |            |       |                  |
|--------|-----------------------|------------|------------|--------|------------|-------|------------------|
| πῶς    | οὐ                    | νοεῖτε     | ὅτι        | οὐ     | περὶ       | ἄρτοῦ | εἰπον            |
| How    | it not                | understand | is it that | it not | concerning | bread | that I speake    |
| 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

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**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?