

Matthew 17:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for ofttimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

Analysis

This text illustrates key Reformed principles: *sola Scriptura*, *sola gratia*, and *sola fide*. The passage demonstrates how God's Word speaks authoritatively to human need, revealing both our depravity and God's merciful provision through Christ.

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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this passage challenge your understanding of God's character?
2. What practical application does this truth have in your daily walk?
3. How should this verse shape your priorities and decisions?

Interlinear Text

Κύριε ἐλέησόν μου τὸν νίόν, ὅτι σεληνιάζεται καὶ
Lord have mercy on my G3588 son for he is lunatick and
G2962 G1653 G3450 G5207 G3754 G4583 G2532

κακῶς πάσχει· πολλάκις γὰρ πίπτει εἰς τὸ πῦρ καὶ
sore vexed oft for he falleth into the fire and
G2560 G3958 G4178 G1063 G4098 G1519 G3588 G4442 G2532

πολλάκις εἰς τὸ ὕδωρ
oft into G3588 the water
G4178 G1519 G5204

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 4:24 (Parallel theme): And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

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