

# Matthew 18:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven,  
that one of these little ones should perish.

## Analysis

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This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting involved complex religious and political dynamics. Jewish leaders maintained authority through Roman tolerance while common people sought deliverance. Jesus' teaching addressed both immediate concerns and eternal truths.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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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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οὕτως οὐκ ἔστιν θέλημα ἔμπροσθεν τῶν πατρὸς ὑμῶν  
**Even so not it is the will of which Father your**  
G3779 G3756 G2076 G2307 G1715 G3588 G3962 G5216

τῶν ἐν οὐρανοῖς ἵνα ἀπόληται εἰς τῶν μικρῶν  
**which is in heaven that should perish one which little ones**  
G3588 G1722 G3772 G2443 G622 G1520 G3588 G3398

τούτων  
**of these**  
G5130

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Peter 3:9** (Parallel theme): The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

**John 17:12** (Parallel theme): While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

**Isaiah 40:11** (Parallel theme): He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

**Zechariah 13:7** (Parallel theme): Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

**John 21:15** (Parallel theme): So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.