

Matthew 20:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

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

This verse originates in Jesus' ministry during a pivotal period. The first-century Jewish context included Roman occupation, Pharisaic religious authority, and messianic expectations. Understanding these factors illuminates the passage's significance.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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

ἡ οὐκ ἔξεστίν μοι ποιῆσαι ὃ θέλω ἐν τοῖς
G2228 **Is it not** **lawful** **for me** **to do** **what** **I will** **with** G3588
G3756 G1832 G3427 G4160 G3739 G2309 G1722

ἐμοῖς εἰ ὁ ὀφθαλμός σου πονηρός ἐστίν ὅτι ἐγὼ
mine own G1487 G3588 **eye** **thine** **evil** **Is** **because** **I**
G1699 G3788 G4675 G4190 G2076 G3754 G1473

ἀγαθός εἰμι
good **am**
G18 G1510

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 15:9 (Evil): Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

Mark 7:22 (Evil): Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

Matthew 6:23 (Evil): But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!