

Matthew 23:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does this text reveal about human nature and God's grace?
2. How can you apply this teaching to current struggles or questions?
3. What changes in thinking or behavior does this passage require?

Interlinear Text

ἰδού, ἀφίεται ὑμῖν ὁ οἶκος ὑμῶν ἔρημος
Behold is left unto you house your desolate
G2400 G863 G5213 G3588 G3624 G5216 G2048

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 22:5 (Parallel theme): But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation.

Luke 13:35 (Parallel theme): Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Luke 21:24 (Parallel theme): And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

Luke 21:6 (Parallel theme): As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Luke 21:20 (Parallel theme): And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

1 Kings 9:7 (Parallel theme): Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people: