

Matthew 24:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

καὶ εἰ μὴ κολοβωθήσονται αἱ ἡμέραι ἐκεῖναι οὐκ
And G1487 G3361 shall be shortened G3588 days those there
G2532 G2856 G2250 G1565 G3756

ἀν ἐσώθη πᾶσα σάρξ· διὰ δὲ τοὺς ἐκλεκτοὺς
should be saved no flesh for but the elect's sake
G302 G4982 G3956 G4561 G1223 G1161 G3588 G1588

κολοβωθήσονται αἱ ἡμέραι ἐκεῖναι
shall be shortened days those
G2856 G3588 G2250 G1565

Additional Cross-References

Mark 13:20 (Salvation): And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

2 Timothy 2:10 (Salvation): Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Matthew 24:24 (Parallel theme): For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Matthew 24:31 (Parallel theme): And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Romans 9:11 (Parallel theme): (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Matthew 22:14 (Parallel theme): For many are called, but few are chosen.

Zechariah 14:2 (Parallel theme): For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Luke 18:7 (Parallel theme): And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

Zechariah 13:8 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

Isaiah 6:13 (Parallel theme): But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.