

Matthew 26:64

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Analysis

Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said (λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Σὺ εἶπας)—The phrase Σὺ εἶπας is Hebraic affirmation—'You yourself have said it' means 'Yes.' Jesus affirmed His identity as Christ and Son of God. Mark 14:62 records stronger affirmation: 'I am' (Εγώ εἰμι). Jesus then elaborated: **nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven** (πλὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀπ' ἄρτι ὄψεσθε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καθήμενον ἐκ δεξιῶν τῆς δυνάμεως καὶ ἐρχόμενον ἐπὶ τῶν νεφελῶν τοῦ οὐρανοῦ).

This combines Daniel 7:13-14 (Son of Man coming with clouds) and Psalm 110:1 (sitting at God's right hand). Jesus declared that His judges would see Him vindicated—'from now on' (ἀπ' ἄρτι) His exaltation begins. The 'right hand of power' (ἐκ δεξιῶν τῆς δυνάμεως, 'power' being circumlocution for God) claims divine authority. Coming 'on clouds of heaven' signals divine theophany (Exodus 19:9; Psalm 104:3). Jesus reversed roles: they judge Him now; He'll judge them then (25:31-46). This clear claim to deity gave Caiaphas desired 'blasphemy.'

Historical Context

Jesus's citation of Daniel 7:13 and Psalm 110:1 was unmistakable messianic claim. Daniel's 'Son of Man' receives universal, eternal dominion from the Ancient of Days. Psalm 110 pictures God inviting the Messiah to sit at His right hand—

position of authority and honor. Jews recognized these texts as messianic. Jesus applied them to Himself, claiming He would be vindicated and exalted despite current humiliation. The early church saw fulfillment in resurrection, ascension (Acts 2:33-36), and future return (Acts 1:11; Revelation 1:7).

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus's prediction that His judges would see Him exalted provide hope when you're unjustly condemned?
2. What does Christ's willingness to confess truth though it meant death teach about valuing eternal vindication over temporary comfort?

Interlinear Text

λέγω	αὐτῷ	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	Σὺ	εἶπας·	πλὴν	λέγω
I say	unto him	G3588	Jesus	Thou	hast said	nevertheless	I say
G3004	G846		G2424	G4771	G2036	G4133	G3004
ὕμῖν	ἀπ'	ἄρτι	ὄψεσθε	τὸν	υἱὸν	τοῦ	ἀνθρώπου
unto you	Hereafter	G737	shall ye see	G3588	the Son	G3588	of man
G5213	G575		G3700		G5207		G444
καθήμενον	ἐκ	δεξιῶν	τῆς	δυνάμεως	καὶ	ἐρχόμενον	
sitting	on	the right hand	G3588	of power	and	coming	
G2521	G1537	G1188		G1411	G2532	G2064	
ἐπὶ	τῶν	νεφελῶν	τοῦ	οὐρανοῦ			
in	G3588	the clouds	G3588	of heaven			
G1909		G3507		G3772			

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 7:13 (Parallel theme): I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

Mark 14:62 (References Jesus): And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Psalms 110:1 (Parallel theme): The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Hebrews 1:3 (Parallel theme): Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Revelation 1:7 (Parallel theme): Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Hebrews 12:2 (References Jesus): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Matthew 24:30 (Parallel theme): And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Matthew 26:25 (Parallel theme): Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

Luke 21:27 (Parallel theme): And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Matthew 25:31 (Parallel theme): When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: