

Revelation 2:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

Analysis

The exhortation to 'hold fast' emphasizes perseverance as evidence of genuine faith. The Greek 'kratēsate' implies vigorous grip, active retention against opposition. Reformed theology affirms the perseverance of the saints—true believers endure to the end not by their own strength but through God's preserving grace. 'Till I come' points to Christ's return as the church's ultimate hope, motivating present faithfulness. Possession of truth creates obligation to maintain it against error.

Historical Context

Written to believers resisting Jezebel's teaching, this command encouraged the faithful minority to persevere despite social pressure. 'Till I come' reminded them that Christ's judgment—not cultural acceptance—would vindicate their stand. The promise sustained hope during extended persecution before Christ's return.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does focusing on Christ's return ('till I come') help you 'hold fast' to truth when cultural pressure mounts?
2. What practical disciplines help you maintain a vigorous 'grip' on sound doctrine and holy living?

Interlinear Text

πλὴν ὁ ἔχετε κρατήσατε ἄχρις οὐδὲν ἥξω
But G3739 that which ye have already hold fast till G3739 I come G2240
G4133 G2192 G2902 G891 G302

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 3:11 (Parallel theme): Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Revelation 22:7 (Parallel theme): Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 3:3 (Parallel theme): Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Hebrews 10:23 (Parallel theme): Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Revelation 22:20 (Parallel theme): He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Romans 12:9 (Parallel theme): Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

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 3:6 (Parallel theme): But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

Hebrews 4:14 (Parallel theme): Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

John 14:3 (Parallel theme): And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

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