

# 1 Corinthians 16:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if it be meet that I go also, they shall go with me.

## Analysis

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**And if it be meet that I go also**—*Axios* (ἀξιος, "meet") means "worthy" or "fitting." Paul remained uncertain whether his personal presence in Jerusalem would be appropriate or beneficial. His humility contrasts with modern ministry celebrity culture; Paul subordinated personal involvement to what best served the mission. He ultimately did travel to Jerusalem with the delegation (Acts 20:4, 21:15-17), where he was arrested, fulfilling his premonition that "bonds and afflictions" awaited him (Acts 20:23).

**They shall go with me**—The plural pronoun emphasizes corporate witness. Multiple representatives from various Gentile churches traveled together (Acts 20:4 lists Sopater, Aristarchus, Secundus, Gaius, Timothy, Tychicus, and Trophimus), embodying the unity of the multiethnic church and ensuring transparency.

## Historical Context

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Paul's journey to Jerusalem with the collection (AD 57) resulted in his arrest and eventual martyrdom in Rome. The dramatic narrative in Acts 21-28 shows how God used even Paul's imprisonment to advance the gospel to Rome and Caesar's household. The collection, representing years of effort and sacrifice, became instrumental in God's providence.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does Paul's conditional language ("if it be meet") teach about holding ministry plans with an open hand?
2. How does the multi-church delegation model transparency and unity in ministry?
3. Considering Paul's arrest in Jerusalem, how do you reconcile faithful obedience with disastrous outcomes?

## Interlinear Text

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ἐὰν	δὲ	ἢ	ἀξιον	τοῦ	καμὲ	πορεύσονται	σὺν	έμοὶ
if	And	it be	meet	G3588	also	that I go	with	me
G1437	G1161	G5600	G514		G2504	G4198	G4862	G1698

πορεύσονται

that I go

G4198

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