

Acts 1:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

Analysis

Peter quotes Psalm 69:25 and 109:8, applying David's words about personal enemies to Judas. The phrase 'let his habitation be desolate' connected to the abandoned field. The directive 'his bishoprick let another take' justified replacing Judas to restore the twelve.

Historical Context

The Greek episkeope (bishopric/office) refers to oversight responsibility. David's imprecatory psalms found fulfillment in Judas, demonstrating the typological relationship between David's and Christ's betrayers.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you understand the use of imprecatory psalms in the New Testament?
2. What principles guide the church in replacing fallen leaders?

Interlinear Text

Γέγραπται γὰρ ἐν βίβλῳ ψαλμῶν Γενηθήτω ἡ
it is written For in the book of Psalms Let G3588
G1125 G1063 G1722 G976 G5568 G1096

ἔπαυλις αὐτοῦ ἔρημος καί μὴ ἔστω ὁ κατοικῶν
habitation his desolate and no man let dwell G3588
G1886 G846 G2048 G2532 G3361 G2077 G2730

ἐν αὐτοῦ καί Τὴν ἔπισκοπὴν αὐτοῦ λάβοι ἔτερος
in his and G3588 bishoprick his let another G2087
G1722 G846 G2532 G1984 G846 G2983 G2087

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 69:25 (Parallel theme): Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents.

Acts 1:25 (Parallel theme): That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.