

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 episkope (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	G3588 dwell
G1886	G846	G2048	G2532	G3361	G2077	G2730
ἐν	αὐτοῦ	καί	Τὴν	ἐπισκοπὴν	αὐτοῦ	λάβοι ἕτερος
in	his	and	G3588	bishoprick	his	let another
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.