

Acts 1:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

Analysis

The two candidates - Joseph Barsabas (called Justus) and Matthias - both met the qualifications. The choice between equally qualified candidates was submitted to divine determination through prayer and lot-casting. This demonstrates dependence on God's wisdom beyond human assessment.

Historical Context

Both candidates had witnessed Jesus' entire ministry, resurrection, and ascension. Their willingness to be submitted to divine choice shows humility about leadership positions.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when equally qualified for a position that goes to another?
2. What does submitting decisions to God's choice teach about leadership appointment?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἔστησαν	δύο	Ἰωσὴφ	τὸν	καλούμενον	Βαρσαβᾶν
And	they appointed	two	Joseph	G3588	called	Barsabas
G2532	G2476	G1417	G2501		G2564	G923
ὃς	ἐπεκλήθη	Ἰοῦστος	καὶ	Ματθίαν		
who	was surnamed	Justus	And	Matthias		
G3739	G1941	G2459	G2532	G3159		

Additional Cross-References

Acts 15:22 (Parallel theme): Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

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