

Acts 10:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:

Analysis

And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Peter's eyewitness testimony combined with the stark reality of crucifixion provides historical foundation while introducing the gospel's central event.

Historical Context

We are witnesses establishes apostolic authority as eyewitnesses to Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. The phrase hanged on a tree echoes Deuteronomy 21:22-23, suggesting Jesus bore covenant curse. Paul later develops this theology (Galatians 3:13). Peter's testimony around 40 CE in Cornelius's house provided Gentiles with firsthand account from Jesus' inner circle—powerful apologetic for Christianity's historical foundations.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Why does eyewitness testimony matter for gospel credibility?
2. What does crucifixion ('hanged on tree') reveal about curse-bearing substitution?
3. How do apostolic witnesses authenticate gospel claims?
4. In what ways does historical particularity distinguish Christianity from mythological religions?
5. What role does Jesus' death play as gospel's central event?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἡμεῖς	ἐσμεν	μάρτυρες	πάντων	ὃν	ἐποίησεν	ἐν	
And	we	are	witnesses	of all things	which	he did	in	
G2532	G2249	G2070	G3144	G3956	G3739	G4160	G1722	
τε	τῇ	χώρα	τῶν	Ἰουδαίων	καὶ	ἐν	Ἱερουσαλήμ	ὃν
both	G3588	the land	G3588	of the Jews	And	in	Jerusalem	which
G5037		G5561		G2453	G2532	G1722	G2419	G3739
ἀνεῖλον	κρεμάσαντες	ἐπὶ	ξύλου					
they slew	and hanged	on	a tree					
G337	G2910	G1909	G3586					

Additional Cross-References

Luke 24:48 (Witness): And ye are witnesses of these things.

Acts 10:41 (Witness): Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Acts 1:8 (Witness): But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 2:32 (Witness): This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

1 Peter 2:24 (Parallel theme): Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org