

Acts 10:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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. Peter explains resurrection appearances' selectivity while emphasizing physical reality (eating, drinking) and divine sovereignty in choosing witnesses.

Historical Context

Chosen before of God indicates predetermined witnesses—apostles and select others—not public spectacle. Eating and drinking proved physicality—not ghost or vision but material body. Ancient thought distinguished resurrection (bodily) from immortality (spiritual). Peter's testimony around 40 CE established apostolic witness as foundation for Christian proclamation—those who physically interacted with risen Jesus became authoritative gospel messengers.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Why didn't Jesus appear to everyone after resurrection?
2. What does eating and drinking prove about resurrection's physical nature?
3. How does selective witness-choosing demonstrate divine sovereignty?
4. In what ways do chosen witnesses provide gospel's authoritative foundation?
5. What distinguishes resurrection from mere spiritual survival of death?

Interlinear Text

οὐ παντὶ τῷ λαῷ ἀλλὰ μάρτυσιν τοῖς
Not to all the people but unto witnesses G3588
G3756 G3956 G2992 G235 G3144 G3588

προκεχειροτονημένοις ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῖν οἵτινες
chosen before of G3588 God even to us who
G4401 G5259 G2316 G2254 G3748

συνεφάγομεν καὶ συνεπίομεν αὐτὸν μετὰ τὸ ἀναστῆναι
did eat and drink with he after G3588 rose
G4906 G2532 G4844 G846 G3326 G450

αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν.
he from the dead
G846 G1537 G3498

Additional Cross-References

John 14:22 (Parallel theme): Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

John 14:17 (Parallel theme): Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

John 21:13 (Parallel theme): Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.

Acts 10:39 (Witness): 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:

Acts 1:22 (Witness): Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

Acts 13:31 (Witness): And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.

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