

Acts 11:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat.

Analysis

And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat. The divine command directly contradicted lifelong training and conscience, requiring radical trust in God's authority over established religious practice.

Historical Context

Arise, slay and eat commanded action violating Torah's dietary laws Peter had observed from childhood. The imperative form indicates divine authority. Reformed theology recognizes this as progressive revelation—God can alter ceremonial laws while maintaining moral law. Around 40 CE, this command initiated Christianity's break from ceremonial Judaism while retaining ethical monotheism.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do divine commands sometimes contradict established religious practice?
2. What distinguishes ceremonial laws (changeable) from moral laws (permanent)?

3. In what ways does progressive revelation challenge existing understanding?
4. How should believers respond when God's direction violates lifelong training?
5. What role does trust in divine authority play when commands seem wrong?

Interlinear Text

ἤκουσα	δὲ	φωνῆς	λεγούσης	μοι	Ἀναστάς	Πέτρε
I heard	And	a voice	saying	unto me	Arise	Peter
G191	G1161	G5456	G3004	G3427	G450	G4074

θῶσον	καὶ	φάγε
slay	and	eat
G2380	G2532	G5315

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