

Acts 12:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

Analysis

Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem. The subtle shift from 'Barnabas and Saul' to 'Paul and his company' indicates Paul's emerging leadership, while John Mark's departure foreshadows later conflict.

Historical Context

Paul's Roman name (versus Hebrew Saul) began regular use after Sergius Paulus's conversion—appropriate for Gentile mission. Perga in Pamphylia (southern Asia Minor/Turkey) lay inland, requiring difficult mountain travel. John Mark's departure around 48 CE for unstated reasons caused later split between Paul and Barnabas (Acts 15:37-39). Whether fear, homesickness, or theological disagreement, his departure revealed mission work's challenges.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does leadership naturally emerge through gifting and Spirit's direction?
2. What causes some to abandon challenging ministry?
3. In what ways do leadership transitions create relational tensions?
4. Why does Scripture honestly record ministry team conflicts?
5. What does John Mark's departure teach about perseverance in mission?

Interlinear Text

κρούσαντος δὲ τοῦ Πέτρου τὴν θύραν τοῦ πυλῶνος
knocked at And as Peter the door of the gate
G2925 G1161 G3588 G4074 G2374 G3588 G4440

προσῆλθεν παιδίσκη ὑπακοῦσαι ὄνόματι Ῥόδη
came a damsel to hearken named Rhoda
G4334 G3814 G5219 G3686 G4498

Additional Cross-References

Acts 12:16 (References Peter): But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

Luke 13:25 (Parallel theme): When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: