

# Acts 13:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

## Analysis

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Paul pronounced judgment: 'the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season.' This miraculous judgment paralleled Paul's Damascus road blinding - divine irony using the same judgment Paul experienced. The temporary nature ('for a season') suggests mercy - opportunity for repentance. The phrase 'hand of the Lord' indicates divine agency in judgment. Reformed theology affirms God's prerogative to judge opposers of His gospel through miraculous signs when He wills. The immediate fulfillment authenticated Paul's apostolic authority.

## Historical Context

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This miracle circa AD 47-48 on Cyprus was Paul's first recorded miracle. The judgment's resemblance to Paul's own blinding shows God's redemptive purpose even in judgment - Elymas's blindness might lead to spiritual sight as Paul's had. The proconsul's faith (v.12) resulted from seeing God's power.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

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1. How does God's judgment sometimes mirror His redemptive purposes?
2. Why did God authenticate apostolic ministry through miraculous signs?
3. What does temporary rather than permanent judgment teach about God's mercy?

### Interlinear Text

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καὶ	νῦν	ἰδοὺ,	χεὶρ	τοῦ	κυρίου	ἐπ'	σέ	καὶ
And	now	behold	the hand	G3588	of the Lord	is upon	thee	And
G2532	G3568	G2400	G5495		G2962	G1909	G4571	G2532
ἔση	τυφλὸς	μὴ	βλέπων	τὸν	ἥλιον	ἄχρι	καιροῦ	
thou shalt be	blind	not	seeing	G3588	the sun	for	a season	
G2071	G5185	G3361	G991		G2246	G891	G2540	
παραχρῆμά	δὲ	ἐπέπεσεν	ἐπ'	αὐτὸν	ἀχλὺς	καὶ	σκότος	
immediately	And	there fell	is upon	him	a mist	And	a darkness	
G3916	G1161	G1968	G1909	G846	G887	G2532	G4655	
καὶ	περιάγων	ἐζήτει	χειραγωγούς					
And	he went about	seeking	some to lead him by the hand					
G2532	G4013	G2212	G5497					

### Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 32:4** (Parallel theme): For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

**Exodus 9:3** (References Lord): Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain.

**Hebrews 10:31** (Parallel theme): It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

**Job 19:21** (Parallel theme): Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

**John 9:39** (Parallel theme): And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

**1 Samuel 5:11** (References Lord): So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there.

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