

Acts 13:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But God raised him from the dead:

Analysis

But God raised him from the dead (ὁ δὲ θεὸς ἤγειρεν αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν)—The emphatic 'But God' (ὁ δὲ θεός) contrasts human rejection with divine vindication. The verb **raised** (ἤγειρεν, aorist tense) marks a decisive historical act, not myth or metaphor. This is resurrection theology at its core: what men killed, God raised; what appeared as defeat became victory.

Paul's sermon repeatedly emphasizes resurrection (vv. 30, 33, 34, 37) as the centerpiece of Christian proclamation. The phrase **from the dead** (ἐκ νεκρῶν, literally 'out from among the dead ones') affirms bodily resurrection—Christ emerged from death's realm, not merely continued as a spirit. Resurrection proves Jesus' identity (Romans 1:4), validates His sacrifice, and guarantees believers' future resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

Historical Context

Paul's Antioch sermon parallels Peter's Pentecost message (Acts 2:24, 32) in centering on resurrection. Both apostles ground Christian faith in verifiable history, not philosophical speculation. First-century witnesses could investigate the tomb, question eyewitnesses, and test the claims—resurrection was public event, not private vision.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does the historical reality of Christ's resurrection shape your confidence in eternal life?
2. What does God's power to raise Jesus 'from the dead' reveal about His ability to bring life to your 'dead' situations?

Interlinear Text

ὁ	δὲ	θεὸς	ἤγειρεν	αὐτὸν	ἐκ	νεκρῶν
G3588	But	God	raised	him	from	the dead
	G1161	G2316	G1453	G846	G1537	G3498

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:24 (Resurrection): Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 17:31 (Resurrection): Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Matthew 28:6 (Resurrection): He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.