

Acts 14:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

Analysis

The shocking reversal - from attempted worship (verse 18) to stoning Paul - demonstrates crowd volatility and the opposition's influence. Jews from Antioch and Iconium traveled significant distances to oppose Paul, showing determined resistance to the gospel. Paul's survival after stoning (they 'supposed he had been dead') demonstrates either divine protection or remarkable resilience.

Historical Context

Stoning was the Jewish method of execution, indicating Jewish instigation even in this Gentile city (Lystra). That Paul survived and continued ministry shows extraordinary physical and spiritual resilience under divine protection.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when public opinion swings dramatically from acceptance to hostility?

2. What does Paul's survival and immediate return to ministry teach about perseverance under extreme opposition?

Interlinear Text

Ἐπῆλθον	δὲ	ἀπὸ	Ἀντιοχείας	καὶ	Ἴκονίου	Ἰουδαῖοι
there came thither	And	from	Antioch	and	Iconium	certain Jews
G1904	G1161	G575	G490	G2532	G2430	G2453

καὶ	πείσαντες	τοὺς	ὄχλους	καὶ	λιθάσαντες	τὸν	Παῦλον
and	persuaded	G3588	the people	and	having stoned	G3588	Paul
G2532	G3982	G3793	G2532	G3034	G3972		

ἔσυρον	ἔξω	τῆς	πόλεως	νομίσαντες	αὐτὸν	τεθνάναι
drew	him out of	G3588	the city	supposing	he	had been dead
G4951	G1854	G4172	G3543	G846	G2348	

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 11:25 (Parallel theme): Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

2 Timothy 3:11 (Parallel theme): Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

Acts 13:45 (References Paul): But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Acts 14:5 (Parallel theme): And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully, and to stone them,

Acts 7:58 (Parallel theme): And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

2 Corinthians 11:23 (Parallel theme): Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

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