

# Acts 15:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying,  
Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

## Analysis

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James (the Lord's brother and Jerusalem church leader) rose to give the decisive judgment. His leadership role shows the transition from Peter's early prominence to James's position as head of the Jerusalem church. The Greek 'apekrithē' (answered) implies authoritative pronouncement. James would synthesize Peter's testimony, Paul's report, and scriptural evidence into a binding decision.

## Historical Context

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James the Just, Jesus' half-brother, had become a believer after the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:7) and emerged as the Jerusalem church's primary leader. His reputation for piety gave him credibility with Jewish Christians.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

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

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What qualities should characterize those who lead theological discussions?
2. How did God prepare James for this crucial leadership moment?
3. What role does godly leadership play in resolving church conflicts?

## Interlinear Text

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Μετὰ δὲ τὸ σιγῆσαι αὐτοὺς ἀπεκρίθη Ἰάκωβος  
after And G3588 peace they had held their answered James  
G3326 G1161 G4601 G846 G611 G2385

λέγων, ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί ἀκούσατέ μου  
saying Men and brethren hearken unto me  
G3004 G435 G80 G191 G3450

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 12:17** (Peace): But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

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