

# Acts 15:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

## Analysis

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James notes that Moses is 'read in the synagogues every sabbath day,' acknowledging Jewish believers' continued connection to their heritage. However, this doesn't mean Gentiles must become Jews. Rather, James will propose minimal restrictions for Gentile-Jewish fellowship, removing stumbling blocks while maintaining gospel freedom.

## Historical Context

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Synagogue services included Torah readings every Sabbath, maintaining Jewish identity and law-knowledge throughout the diaspora. This practice had existed for centuries since the Babylonian exile.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How should Christians honor biblical heritage without imposing legalism?
2. What role does Scripture reading play in maintaining doctrinal purity?
3. How can we preserve tradition without adding to gospel requirements?

## Interlinear Text

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Μωσῆς	γὰρ	ἐκ	γενεῶν	ἀρχαίων	κατὰ	πόλιν	τοὺς	
<b>Moses</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>time</b>	<b>old</b>	<b>every</b>	<b>city</b>		G3588
G3475	G1063	G1537	G1074	G744	G2596	G4172		
κηρύσσοντας	αὐτὸν	ἔχει	ἐν	ταῖς	συναγωγαῖς	κατὰ	πᾶν	
<b>them that preach</b>	<b>him</b>	<b>hath</b>	<b>in</b>	G3588	<b>the synagogues</b>	<b>every</b>		G3956
G2784	G846	G2192	G1722		G4864	G2596		
σάββατον	ἀναγινωσκόμενος							
<b>sabbath day</b>	<b>being read</b>							
G4521	G314							

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 13:15** (Parallel theme): And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

**Acts 13:27** (Parallel theme): For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him.