

Acts 15:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

Analysis

The apostles, elders, and whole church chose representatives to accompany Paul and Barnabas to Antioch. This demonstrates church government through leadership and congregational consent. Judas (Barsabas) and Silas, 'chief men among the brethren,' would confirm the council's decision. Their involvement ensured the letter's authenticity and authority.

Historical Context

This delegation method prevented forgery and confirmed official church positions. Silas (also called Silvanus) would later become Paul's missionary companion, showing how this council strengthened ministerial relationships.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How should churches balance leadership authority with congregational involvement?
2. What safeguards prevent false teaching from spreading through churches?
3. How does proper church governance protect gospel truth?

Interlinear Text

Τότε	ἔδοξεν	τοῖς	ἀποστόλοις	καὶ	τοῖς	πρεσβυτέροις
Then G5119	pleased it G1380	G3588	the apostles G652	and G2532	G3588	elders G4245
σὺν	ὅλῃ	τῇ	ἐκκλησίᾳ	ἐκλεξαμένους	ἄνδρας	ἐξ
with G4862	the whole G3650	G3588	church G1577	chosen G1586	men G435	of G1537
αὐτῶν	πέμψαι	εἰς	Ἀντιόχειαν	σὺν	τῷ	Παύλῳ
their own company G846	to send G3992	to G1519	Antioch G490	with G4862	G3588	Paul G3972
καὶ	Βαρναβᾶ	Ἰούδαν	τὸν	ἐπικαλούμενον	Βαρσαβᾶν	
and G2532	Barnabas G921	namely Judas G2455	G3588	surnamed G1941	Barsabas G923	
καὶ	Σιλᾶν	ἄνδρας	ἡγουμένους	ἐν	τοῖς	ἀδελφοῖς
and G2532	Silas G4609	men G435	chief G2233	among G1722	G3588	the brethren G80

Additional Cross-References

Acts 15:27 (Parallel theme): We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth.

Acts 15:32 (Parallel theme): And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them.

Acts 15:40 (References Paul): And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

1 Peter 5:12 (Parallel theme): By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.

Acts 18:5 (References Paul): And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.

Acts 17:14 (References Paul): And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still.

Acts 16:19 (References Paul): And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers,

Acts 16:29 (References Paul): Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

Acts 17:10 (References Paul): And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

Acts 1:23 (Parallel theme): And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.