

Acts 15:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:

Analysis

The council acknowledges that 'certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls.' The Greek 'anaskeuazō' (subvert, unsettle) shows the destructive nature of false teaching. Importantly, these troublemakers went out 'to whom we gave no such commandment,' disclaiming any official authorization for their legalism.

Historical Context

False teachers often claimed apostolic authority they didn't possess. This official repudiation protected Gentile churches from ongoing Judaizing pressure and established that the Jerusalem church supported Gentile freedom.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does false teaching 'subvert' souls and undermine faith?
2. What responsibility do church leaders have to refute error in their name?
3. How can you discern between authorized teaching and unauthorized imitators?

Interlinear Text

Ἐπειδὴ ἡκούσαμεν ὅτι τινὲς ἔξ ἡμῶν ἔξελθόντες
Forasmuch as we have heard that certain from us which went out
G1894 G191 G3754 G5100 G1537 G2257 G1831

ἐτάραξαν ὑμᾶς λόγοις ἀνασκευάζοντες τὰς ψυχὰς
have troubled you with words subverting
G5015 G5209 G3056 G384 G3588 G5590

ὑμῶν λέγοντες περιτέμνεσθαι καὶ τηρεῖν τον νόμον,
your saying Ye must be circumcised and keep G3588 the law
G5216 G3004 G4059 G2532 G5083 G3551

οἵς οὐ διεστειλάμεθα
to whom no such commandment
G3739 G3756 G1291

Additional Cross-References

Acts 15:1 (Parallel theme): And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

Galatians 5:12 (Parallel theme): I would they were even cut off which trouble you.

Galatians 5:10 (Parallel theme): I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be.

Galatians 1:7 (Parallel theme): Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

1 John 2:19 (Parallel theme): They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

2 Timothy 2:14 (Word): Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

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