

Acts 15:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

Analysis

The Gentiles 'rejoiced for the consolation' (Greek 'paraklēsis' - encouragement, exhortation). This joy stemmed from knowing they were fully accepted without circumcision. The letter's affirmation liberated them from legalistic burdens and confirmed salvation by grace alone. True doctrine produces joy.

Historical Context

This joy contrasted sharply with the confusion and distress caused by the Judaizers. The council's clear decision ended months of uncertainty and conflict in Antioch's church.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does sound doctrine produce genuine joy in believers?
2. What burdens are lifted when we truly grasp salvation by grace?
3. How should the church respond when truth is clarified and error refuted?

Interlinear Text

ἀναγνόντες δὲ ἐχάρησαν ἐπὶ τῇ παρακλήσει
they had read Which when they rejoiced for the consolation
G314 G1161 G5463 G1909 G3588 G3874

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