

Acts 15:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

Analysis

The Jerusalem church, apostles, and elders received them warmly and heard their report of 'all things that God had done with them.' The passive construction emphasizes God as the primary actor in missions. This reception contrasts with the Judaizers' hostile reception, showing that official church leadership supported the Gentile mission.

Historical Context

This formal reception before the Jerusalem church leadership (circa AD 49) included James (Jesus' half-brother), Peter, John, and other elders. Jerusalem remained the mother church and center of early Christianity.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How should missionary reports emphasize God's work rather than human achievement?

2. What does this reception teach about proper relationships between church leaders?
3. How can churches today better receive and celebrate cross-cultural ministry reports?

Interlinear Text

παραγενόμενοι δὲ εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἀπεδέχθησαν ὑπὸ τῆς
when they were come **And** **to** **Jerusalem** **they were received** **of** G3588
G3854 G1161 G1519 G2419 G588 G5259

ἐκκλησίας καὶ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων
the church **and** G3588 **of the apostles** **and** G3588 **elders**
G1577 G2532 G652 G2532 G4245

ἀνήγγειλάν τε ὅσα ὁ θεὸς ἐποίησεν μετ' αὐτῶν
they declared **and** **all things** G3588 **that God** **had done** **with** **them**
G312 G5037 G3745 G2316 G4160 G3326 G846

Additional Cross-References

Acts 15:12 (References God): Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

Acts 14:27 (References God): And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Acts 21:17 (References Jerusalem): And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

Acts 15:3 (Parallel theme): And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.