

Acts 16:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city.

Analysis

'They came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city.' The magistrates' personal apology shows how completely the situation reversed. Yet they still wanted Paul to leave - his presence was politically uncomfortable. Paul's vindication was complete, but the gospel's advance required moving on.

Historical Context

The magistrates' request for departure, though now polite, achieved their original goal - removing Paul from Philippi. However, a thriving church remained (Phil. 1:1), showing that gospel work transcends individual ministers.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How should we respond to forced apologies that still seek our removal?
2. What does it mean to accept vindication without demanding revenge?
3. How can we trust God's purposes when we must leave fields of ministry?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐλθόντες παρεκάλεσαν αὐτούς καὶ ἐξαγαγόντες
And they came and besought them And brought them out
G2532 G2064 G3870 G846 G2532 G1806

ἠρώτων ἐξελθεῖν τῆς πόλεως
and desired them to depart out of the city
G2065 G1831 G3588 G4172

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 8:34 (Parallel theme): And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.

Mark 5:17 (Parallel theme): And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.