

Acts 16:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

Analysis

The Macedonian vision—'Come over into Macedonia, and help us'—demonstrates God's method of supernatural guidance at strategic junctures. The immediate interpretation 'assuredly gathering' that God called them suggests corporate confirmation of individual vision. This clear direction launched Christianity's European mission with world-historical consequences.

Historical Context

At Troas (AD 50), Paul received this night vision redirecting his ministry from Asia toward Europe. Philippi became the first European city evangelized, establishing churches in Macedonia (Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea) that became Paul's most supportive partners.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God provide clear guidance at crucial decision points in ministry?

2. What role do visions and supernatural direction play in contemporary missionary calling?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ὄραμα	διὰ	τῆς	νυκτὸς	ὤφθη	τῷ	Παύλῳ	ἀνὴρ
And	a vision	in	G3588	the night	appeared	G3588	to Paul	G435
G2532	G3705	G1223		G3571	G3700		G3972	
τις	ἦν	Μακεδών	ἐστὼς	παρακαλῶν	αὐτὸν	καὶ		
a man	There stood	of Macedonia	G2476	and prayed	him	And		
G5100	G2258	G3110		G3870	G846	G2532		
λέγων,	Διαβὰς	εἰς	Μακεδονίαν	βοήθησον	ἡμῖν			
saying	Come over	into	Macedonia	and help	us			
G3004	G1224	G1519	G3109	G997	G2254			

Additional Cross-References

Acts 19:21 (References Paul): After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

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.

Romans 15:26 (Parallel theme): For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

Acts 20:1 (References Paul): And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto him the disciples, and embraced them, and departed for to go into Macedonia.