

Acts 17:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

Analysis

Paul's method - 'opening and alleging' that Christ must suffer and rise, then proving 'that this Jesus... is Christ' - shows systematic theological argumentation. He first established Messiah's necessity to suffer (contrary to popular expectation), then proved Jesus fulfilled these prophecies. This logical progression from Scripture to Jesus models apologetic methodology.

Historical Context

Jewish messianic expectation emphasized the Messiah's glory, making His suffering a 'stumbling block' (1 Corinthians 1:23). Paul's demonstration that Scripture predicted Messiah's suffering prepared hearers to accept Jesus's crucifixion as messianic fulfillment rather than disqualification.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do you help others see that Jesus fulfills all Scripture, including parts that seem contradictory to expectations?
2. What does this teach about addressing objections by showing biblical foundations before applying them to Jesus?

Interlinear Text

διανοίγων καὶ παρατιθέμενος ὅτι τὸν Χριστός ἔδει
Opening and alleging that G3588 Christ must needs
G1272 G2532 G3908 G3754 G5547 G1163

παθεῖν καὶ ἀναστῆναι ἐκ νεκρῶν καὶ ὅτι οὗτός^ς
have suffered and risen again from the dead and that this
G3958 G2532 G450 G1537 G3498 G2532 G3754 G3778

ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός Ἰησοῦς ὃν ἐγὼ καταγγέλλω ὑμῖν
is G3588 Christ Jesus whom I preach unto you
G2076 G5547 G2424 G3739 G1473 G2605 G5213

Additional Cross-References

Acts 18:28 (References Jesus): For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Luke 24:32 (Parallel theme): And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

Acts 9:22 (References Christ): But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

Acts 3:18 (References Christ): But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

Luke 24:46 (Resurrection): And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

