

Acts 18:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it; for I will be no judge of such matters.

Analysis

'But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it.' Gallio recognized the dispute as theological, not criminal. 'I will be no judge of such matters' established that Roman courts wouldn't adjudicate Jewish religious controversies.

Historical Context

Roman officials generally avoided involvement in religious disputes they considered superstitious. Gallio's dismissal freed Christianity from legal harassment in Achaia.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How should believers understand the proper relationship between civil and religious authority?
2. What does Gallio's attitude teach about secular authorities' limitations in religious matters?

Interlinear Text

εἰ	δὲ	ζήτημά	ἐστιν	περὶ	λόγου	καὶ	ὀνομάτων	καὶ
if	But	a question	it be	of	words	and	names	and
G1487	G1161	G2213	G2076	G4012	G3056	G2532	G3686	G2532
νόμου	τοῦ	καθ'	ὑμᾶς	ὄψεσθε	αὐτοί·	κριτῆς	γὰρ	ἐγὼ
law	G3588	of	your	look ye	G846	judge	to it for	I
G3551		G2596	G5209	G3700		G2923	G1063	G1473
τούτων	οὐ	βούλομαι	εἶναι					
of such	no	will be	G1511					
G5130	G3756	G1014						

Additional Cross-References

Acts 25:19 (Parallel theme): But had certain questions against him of their own superstition, and of one Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive.

Acts 23:29 (Word): Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.

Acts 25:11 (Parallel theme): For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar.

Matthew 27:24 (Parallel theme): When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

1 Timothy 6:4 (Word): He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,