

Acts 18:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. And Gallio cared for none of those things.

Analysis

'Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat.' Mob violence turned on the accusers. Sosthenes may later have converted (1 Corinthians 1:1). 'Gallio cared for none of those things' - Roman indifference to Jewish internal affairs.

Historical Context

Sosthenes apparently succeeded Crispus as synagogue ruler. If he is the same Sosthenes Paul later calls 'brother' (1 Corinthians 1:1), this beating may have contributed to his eventual conversion.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God sometimes use opposition's failure to advance His purposes?
2. What might have changed Sosthenes from persecutor to brother in Christ?

Interlinear Text

ἐπιλαβόμενοι δὲ πάντες οἱ Ἑλληνες Σωσθένην τὸν
took Then all G3588 the Greeks Sosthenes G3588
G1949 G1161 G3956 G1672 G4988

ἀρχισυνάγωγον ἔτυπτον ἐμπροσθειν τοῦ βήματος·
the chief ruler of the synagogue and beat him before the judgment seat
G752 G5180 G1715 G968

καὶ οὐδὲν τούτων τῷ Γαλλίωνι ἐμελεῖν
And for none of those things G3588 Gallio cared
G2532 G3762 G5130 G1058 G3199

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 1:1 (Parallel theme): Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,

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