

Acts 2:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

Analysis

Peter's logical refutation - 'it is but the third hour of the day' (9 AM) - demonstrates that supernatural phenomena require supernatural explanation, not dismissive naturalism. The Reformed principle of using reason in service of faith appears here: Peter doesn't abandon logic but employs it to clear ground for scriptural exposition. True drunkenness wouldn't produce coherent multilingual proclamation of God's works.

Historical Context

Jewish custom prohibited eating or drinking before 9 AM during festivals. Morning prayer (Shacharit) occurred at the third hour, making drunkenness especially scandalous and unlikely. Peter's appeal to cultural norms established credibility before launching into prophetic exposition.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How do you balance rational explanation with openness to supernatural divine activity?
2. When defending the faith, how can you follow Peter's example of reasoned preparation for gospel presentation?

Interlinear Text

οὐ	γὰρ	ὡς	ὑμεῖς	ὑπολαμβάνετε	οὗτοι	μεθύουσιν	ἔστιν
not	For	as	ye	suppose	these	are	it is
G3756	G1063	G5613	G5210	G5274	G3778	G3184	G2076

γὰρ	ῶρα	τρίτη	τῇς	ἡμέρας
For	hour	but the third	G3588	of the day
G1063	G5610	G5154		G2250

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