

Acts 2:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

Analysis

The phrase 'wherein we were born' (Greek 'gennethe-men') emphasizes that the Spirit enabled perfect communication in native dialects, not mere foreign languages. This miraculous sign authenticated apostolic authority while demonstrating the gospel's accessibility to all nations. No linguistic barrier could hinder God's redemptive purposes - a foretaste of Revelation 7's vision of every tongue worshiping the Lamb.

Historical Context

The listed languages represented the eastern (Parthian, Median, Elamite), western (Roman, Cyrenian), northern (Cappadocian, Pontic), and southern (Egyptian, Arabian) reaches of the known world. This encompassed the entire Roman Empire and beyond, fulfilling Isaiah's vision of salvation reaching earth's ends.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the Spirit's multilingual miracle demonstrate that the gospel is for all peoples without cultural compromise?
2. What 'language barriers' - cultural, intellectual, or social - might hinder your witness that God's Spirit can overcome?

Interlinear Text

καὶ πῶς ἡμεῖς ἀκούομεν ἔκαστος τῇ ιδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ

And **how** **we** **hear** **every** **G3588** **own** **tongue**

G2532 G4459 G2249 G191 G1538 G2398 G1258

ἡμῶν ἐν ἦ γεννηθμεν

man in our **wherein** **G3739** **we were born**

G2257 G1722 G1080

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org