

Acts 20:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

Analysis

'From Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.' The 30-mile summons brought Ephesian leaders for a final meeting. Paul's determination to reach Jerusalem for Pentecost (v.16) prevented Ephesian visit, but pastoral concern demanded this gathering.

Historical Context

Miletus was a port city south of Ephesus. The elders' journey (likely taking a full day each way) shows their responsiveness to Paul's summons.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What does summoning elders from a distance teach about pastoral priorities?
2. How did Paul balance travel schedule with pastoral care?

Interlinear Text

Ἀπὸ	δὲ	τῆς	Μιλήτου	πέμψας	εἰς	Ἔφεσον	μετεκαλέσατο
from	And	G3588	Miletus	he sent	to	Ephesus	and called
G575	G1161		G3399	G3992	G1519	G2181	G3333
τοὺς	πρεσβυτέρους	τῆς	ἐκκλησίας				
G3588	the elders	G3588	of the church				
	G4245		G1577				

Additional Cross-References

Acts 11:30 (Parallel theme): Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

1 Timothy 5:17 (Parallel theme): Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

Acts 14:23 (Parallel theme): And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

Acts 20:28 (Parallel theme): Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

James 5:14 (Parallel theme): Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

Titus 1:5 (Parallel theme): For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: