

Acts 20:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

Analysis

'I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.' Financial integrity protected ministry credibility. Paul rejected any accusation of mercenary motive. Freedom from covetousness demonstrated gospel sincerity.

Historical Context

Traveling teachers were sometimes suspected of financial exploitation. Paul's manual labor (v.34) demonstrated that ministry wasn't for material gain.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does financial integrity protect ministry credibility?
2. What does freedom from covetousness communicate about gospel motivations?

Interlinear Text

ἀργυρίου ἢ χρυσίου ἢ ἴματισμοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐπεθύμησα·
silver or gold or apparel no man's I have coveted
G694 G2228 G5553 G2228 G2441 G3762 G1937

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 11:9 (Parallel theme): And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.

1 Corinthians 9:12 (Parallel theme): If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ.

1 Corinthians 9:18 (Parallel theme): What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.

1 Corinthians 9:15 (Parallel theme): But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void.

2 Corinthians 7:2 (Parallel theme): Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.

1 Thessalonians 2:5 (Parallel theme): For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: