

Acts 20:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him,

Analysis

'They all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him.' Deep emotional expression marked this farewell. Mediterranean culture allowed public emotional display. The combination of weeping, embracing, and kissing expressed profound love.

Historical Context

These expressions of affection show the bonds formed through three years of ministry. The emotional intensity reflects genuine relationships, not mere professional connections.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What do these emotional expressions reveal about Paul's pastoral relationships?
2. How should depth of relationship mark Christian community?

Interlinear Text

ἰκανὸς δὲ ἐγένετο κλαυθμὸς πάντων καὶ ἐπιπесόντες

sore
G2425

And
G1161

G1096

wept
G2805

they all
G3956

and
G2532

fell
G1968

ἐπὶ τὸν τράχηλον τοῦ Παύλου κατεφίλουν αὐτόν

on
G1909

G3588

neck
G5137

G3588

Paul's
G3972

and kissed
G2705

him
G846

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 21:4 (Parallel theme): And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Luke 15:20 (Parallel theme): And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

2 Timothy 1:4 (Parallel theme): Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;