

# Acts 21:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

## Analysis

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**Both we, and they of that place, besought him** (παρακαλέω, parakaléō)—The unified pleading from both Paul's traveling companions ('we') and Caesarean believers ('they of that place') revealed genuine love and concern. Yet this emotional appeal, though well-intentioned, opposed God's clear purpose for Paul's Jerusalem journey. The Greek 'besought' suggests urgent, repeated entreaty. This demonstrates that sincere Christian counsel, even from Spirit-filled believers, must be tested against one's divine calling. Affection must not override obedience.

## Historical Context

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This urgent pleading followed Agabus's prophetic demonstration (Acts 21:10-11) of Paul's coming imprisonment. The believers' fear was reasonable—Jerusalem had proven deadly for Stephen and James the apostle. Their love for Paul made them want to preserve his life at the cost of his mission.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do you discern when loving counsel from fellow believers conflicts with God's specific calling on your life?
2. What does this passage teach about the difference between Spirit-revealed warnings and human attempts to avoid suffering?

## Interlinear Text

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ώς	δὲ	ἠκούσαμεν	ταῦτα	παρεκαλοῦμεν	ἡμεῖς	τε	
<b>when</b>	<b>And</b>	<b>we heard</b>	<b>these things</b>	<b>besought</b>	<b>we</b>	<b>both</b>	
G5613	G1161	G191	G5023	G3870	G2249	G5037	
καὶ	οἱ	ἐντόπιοι	τοῦ	μὴ	ἀναβαίνειν	αὐτὸν	εἰς
<b>and</b>	<b>G3588</b>	<b>they of that place</b>	<b>G3588</b>	<b>not</b>	<b>to go up</b>	<b>him</b>	<b>to</b>
G2532		G1786		G3361	G305	G846	G1519

Ἰερουσαλήμ  
**Jerusalem**  
G2419

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