

Acts 21:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.

Analysis

The three accusations - teaching against 'the people, the law, and this place' (temple), plus bringing Greeks into the temple - represented the most inflammatory charges possible. Though false, they were calculated to incite mob violence. This parallels accusations against Jesus (Matthew 26:61) and Stephen (Acts 6:13), showing that faithful witnesses often face similar opposition to their Lord.

Historical Context

Gentiles could enter the outer Court of the Gentiles but faced death for entering inner courts. Archaeologists have discovered warning inscriptions from this period threatening death to Gentiles who passed the barrier.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain integrity when falsely accused of serious offenses?
2. What does the similarity between charges against Jesus, Stephen, and Paul teach about the cost of faithful witness?

Interlinear Text

κράζοντες Ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλῖται βοηθεῖτε· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ
Crying out **Men** **of Israel** **help** **This** **is** G3588
G2896 G435 G2475 G997 G3778 G2076

ἄνθρωπος ὁ κατὰ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ τοῦ νόμου καὶ
the man G3588 **against** G3588 **the people** **also** G3588 **the law** **also**
G444 G2596 G2992 G2532 G3551 G2532

τοῦ τόπον τούτου πάντας πανταχοῦ διδάσκων ἔτι
G3588 **place** **this** **all** **men every where** **that teacheth** **further**
G5117 G5127 G3956 G3837 G1321 G2089

τε καὶ Ἑλληνας εἰσήγαγεν εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν καὶ
and **also** **Greeks** **brought** **into** G3588 **the temple** **also**
G5037 G2532 G1672 G1521 G1519 G2411 G2532

κεκοίνωκεν τὸν ἅγιον τόπον τοῦτον
hath polluted G3588 **holy** **place** **this**
G2840 G40 G5117 G5126

Additional Cross-References

Acts 21:21 (Parallel theme): And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs.
