

Acts 21:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was borne of the soldiers for the violence of the people.

Analysis

The mob's violence was so intense that soldiers had to carry Paul up the stairs to the fortress, protecting him from being torn apart. The Greek 'bastazō' (carried) suggests he was lifted bodily by soldiers forming a protective shield. This dramatic scene demonstrated both the depth of religious hatred and God's preservation through Roman military intervention.

Historical Context

The stairs connected the temple court to the Fortress of Antonia. This location became the stage for Paul's defense speech in Acts 22, using the elevated position to address the crowd below.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. Have you experienced situations where God's protection came through authorities or systems you might not expect?

2. What does Paul's calm response to life-threatening violence teach about trusting God in crisis?

Interlinear Text

ὅτε	δὲ	ἐγένετο	ἐπὶ	τοὺς	ἀναβαθμούς	συνέβη
when	And	he came	upon	G3588	the stairs	so it was
G3753	G1161	G1096	G1909		G304	G4819
βαστάζεσθαι	αὐτὸν	ὑπὸ	τῶν	στρατιωτῶν	διὰ	τὴν
that he was borne	G846	of	G3588	the soldiers	for	G3588
G941		G5259		G4757	G1223	
βίαν	τοῦ	ὄχλου				
the violence	G3588	of the people				
G970		G3793				

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