

Acts 22:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

Analysis

I could not see for the glory of that light—Physical blindness symbolized Saul's spiritual blindness to Christ's messiahship. The Greek 'doxa' (δόξα, glory) connects this light to the Shekinah glory of God. Being **led by the hand** (χειραγωγούμενος) reverses Saul's authoritative arrival with arrest warrants—the persecutor becomes helpless, dependent. The three-day blindness (Acts 9:9) parallels Jonah's three days, Jesus' death and resurrection, and creates the darkness necessary for spiritual sight. Paul's conversion required the humiliation of the self-righteous Pharisee.

Historical Context

Saul traveled to Damascus with official letters from the high priest authorizing persecution of believers (Acts 9:1-2). His traveling companions witnessed the light and heard the sound but didn't see Jesus or understand the words (Acts 22:9), making them witnesses to the supernatural event.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How might God use 'blindness'—circumstances that strip away self-sufficiency—to bring spiritual sight?
2. What does Paul's need to be 'led by the hand' reveal about the nature of genuine conversion?

Interlinear Text

ώς	δὲ	οὐκ	ἐνέβλεπον	ἀπὸ	τῆς	δόξης	τοῦ	φωτὸς
when	And	not	I could	for	G3588	the glory	G3588	light
G5613	G1161	G3756	G1689	G575		G1391		G5457
ἐκείνου	χειραγωγούμενος			ὑπὸ	τῶν	συνόντων	μοι	
of that	being led by the hand			of	G3588	them that were	with me	
G1565		G5496		G5259		G4895		G3427
ἥλθον	εἰς	Δαμασκόν						
I came	into	Damascus						
G2064	G1519	G1154						

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