

Acts 23:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.

Analysis

Claudius Lysias **charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me**—the Greek medeni eklaleo (μηδενὶ ἐκλαλήσῃς) means 'tell absolutely no one.' This operational security protected both Paul and the rescue plan from compromise. The commander's swift, decisive action reveals Roman military efficiency and his growing conviction that Paul deserved protection. His confidential treatment of the informant shows administrative wisdom—premature disclosure would have doomed the rescue.

Historical Context

Roman military protocol emphasized secrecy in tactical operations. Lysias commanded 1,000 troops in Jerusalem's garrison and bore responsibility for civil order. His protective custody of Paul balanced Jewish appeasement with Roman justice.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. When does godly wisdom require confidentiality rather than immediate disclosure?
2. How did God use a pagan commander's sense of justice to preserve Paul for gospel ministry?

Interlinear Text

ο μὲν οὖν χιλίαρχος ἀπέλυσεν τὸν νεανίαν,
G3588 So G3767 the chief captain depart G3588 the young man
G3303 G5506 G630 G3494

παραγγείλας μηδενὶ ἐκλαλῆσαι ὅτι ταῦτα ἐνεφάνισας
and charged no man him See thou tell that these things thou hast shewed
G3853 G3367 G1583 G3754 G5023 G1718

πρός με
to me
G4314 G3165

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