

Acts 23:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.

Analysis

Lysias's assessment that Paul faced 'questions of their law' with 'nothing worthy of death or of bonds' represented crucial official Roman opinion. This judgment that Christianity involved internal Jewish disputes rather than Roman crimes would protect the church for decades. God used a pagan officer's assessment to establish legal precedent favorable to gospel spread.

Historical Context

This verdict echoed Gallio's earlier decision (Acts 18:14-15) and anticipated Roman policy toward Christianity for the next century. It established that Christian faith wasn't inherently criminal under Roman law.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How has God used secular authorities' judgments to protect and advance the gospel despite their lack of personal faith?

2. What does this teach about advocating for proper legal recognition of religious liberty?

Interlinear Text

ὅν	εὗρον	ἐγκαλούμενον	περὶ	ζητημάτων	τοῦ	νόμου		
Whom	I perceived	to be accused	of	questions	G3588	law		
G3739	G2147	G1458	G4012	G2213		G3551		
αὐτῶν	μηδὲν	δὲ	ἄξιον	θανάτου	ἢ	δεσμῶν		
of their	nothing	but	worthy	of death	or	of bonds		
G846	G3367	G1161	G514	G2288	G2228	G1199		
ἐγκλημα	ἐχοντα							
laid to his charge	to have							
G1462	G2192							

Additional Cross-References

Acts 26:31 (Parallel theme): And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

Acts 18:15 (Word): But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it; for I will be no judge of such matters.

Acts 25:25 (Parallel theme): But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and that he himself hath appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him.