

Acts 23:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.

Analysis

The 'great dissension' that arose demonstrates how fundamental theology divides more than peripheral issues. The resurrection question wasn't academic but touched the heart of God's redemptive plan. Paul's statement created chaos not through manipulation but by highlighting the central issue - whether God raises the dead and thus whether Jesus's resurrection validated His messianic claims.

Historical Context

This division reflected long-standing theological tensions within Judaism. The same Sanhedrin that united against Jesus now fragmented when forced to address the resurrection's implications.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What central theological convictions are worth standing firm on even when they create conflict?

2. How does the resurrection's reality affect every other aspect of Christian faith and practice?

Interlinear Text

τοῦτο	δὲ	αὐτοῦ	λαλήσαντος,	ἐγένετο	στάσις	τῶν
so	And			there arose	a dissension	
G5124	G1161	G846		G1096	G4714	G3588
Φαρισαίων	καὶ	τῶν	Σαδδουκαίων	καὶ	ἐσχίσθη	τὸ
between the Pharisees	and	G3588	the Sadducees	and	was divided	G3588
G5330	G2532		G4523	G2532	G4977	
πλῆθος						
the multitude						

πλῆθος
the multitude
G4128

Additional Cross-References

Acts 14:4 (Parallel theme): But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.

Psalms 55:9 (Parallel theme): Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.

Matthew 10:34 (Parallel theme): Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

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