

Acts 24:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

Analysis

Paul's confession - 'after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers' - brilliantly reframes the issue. What they call 'heresy' (Greek 'hairesis,' sect), Paul identifies as true worship of Israel's God. His claim to believe 'all things which are written in the law and in the prophets' positions Christianity as Judaism's fulfillment, not its contradiction.

Historical Context

Paul's appeal to 'the law and the prophets' invoked the Hebrew Scriptures' authority, showing Christianity's roots in God's progressive revelation. This defense would resonate with Felix's knowledge of Jewish traditions.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How do you help others see that Christianity fulfills rather than contradicts God's prior revelation?

2. What does this teach about confidently claiming your faith's connection to God's historical work?

Interlinear Text

ὁμολογῶ	δὲ	τοῦτό	σοι	ὅτι	κατὰ	τοῖς	ὁδὸν	ἦν
I confess	But	this	unto thee	that	after	which	the way	which
G3670	G1161	G5124	G4671	G3754	G2596	G3588	G3598	G3739
λέγουσιν	αἵρεσιν	οὕτως	λατρεύω	τοῖς	πατρώω	θεῷ		
they call	heresy	so	worship I	which	of my fathers	the God		
G3004	G139	G3779	G3000	G3588	G3971	G2316		
πιστεύων	πάσιν	τοῖς	κατὰ	τοῖς	νόμον	καὶ	τοῖς	
believing	all things	which	after	which	the law	and	which	
G4100	G3956	G3588	G2596	G3588	G3551	G2532	G3588	
προφήταις	γεγραμμένοις							
the prophets	are written							
G4396	G1125							

Additional Cross-References

Acts 9:2 (Parallel theme): And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

Romans 3:21 (Word): But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Acts 28:23 (Word): And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

Acts 3:13 (References God): The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

Acts 24:5 (Parallel theme): For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:

Acts 26:22 (Prophecy): Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

Acts 26:27 (Faith): King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.

2 Timothy 1:3 (References God): I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

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