

Acts 24:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

Analysis

Paul identifies shared hope in resurrection as common ground between himself and his accusers - 'which they themselves also allow.' This brilliant strategy shows the inconsistency of condemning him for believing what they themselves affirm. The resurrection of 'both of the just and unjust' reflects Paul's teaching that final judgment awaits all (Romans 2:5-11).

Historical Context

Pharisees affirmed resurrection, though not necessarily of the unjust. Paul's articulation of universal resurrection leading to judgment reflects developed Christian theology rooted in Jesus's teaching (John 5:28-29).

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How can you identify common theological ground with opponents to expose inconsistency in their opposition?

2. What does belief in universal resurrection and judgment mean for how you live now?

Interlinear Text

ἐλπίδα ἔχων εἰς τὸν θεόν ἥν καὶ αὐτοὶ οὗτοι
hope And have toward G3588 God which also themselves they
G1680 G2192 G1519 G2316 G3739 G2532 G846 G3778

προσδέχονται ἀνάστασιν μέλλειν ἔσεσθαι νεκρῶν,
allow a resurrection that there shall be G2071 of the dead
G4327 G386 G3195 G3498

δικαίων τε καὶ ἀδίκων
of the just both also unjust
G1342 G5037 G2532 G94

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 12:2 (Parallel theme): And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Revelation 20:6 (Resurrection): Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Philippians 3:21 (Parallel theme): Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.