

Acts 25:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all.

Analysis

Paul's declaration 'Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all' comprehensively addresses all possible charges. His triple denial - religious, ritual, and political offenses - shows how thoroughly baseless the accusations were. This clean slate before Jewish law, temple regulations, and Roman authority demonstrates that Christianity, properly understood, threatens neither legitimate religion nor proper government.

Historical Context

Paul's defense before Festus required addressing both Jewish religious concerns and Roman political interests. His claim to have violated neither Jewish nor Roman law anticipated Christianity's later legal status as *religio licita* (permitted religion) in the empire.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does living blamelessly before both religious and civil authorities strengthen your gospel witness?
2. What does Paul's comprehensive defense teach about Christianity's compatibility with proper respect for legitimate authority?

Interlinear Text

ἀπολογουμένου αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οὐτε εἰς τὸν νόμον
While he answered for himself Neither neither against G3588 the law
G626 G846 G3754 G3777 G1519 G3551

τῶν Ἰουδαίων οὐτε εἰς τὸ ιερὸν οὐτε εἰς
G3588 of the Jews neither against G3588 the temple neither against
G2453 G3777 G1519 G2411 G3777 G1519

Καίσαρά τι ἥμαρτον
Caesar any thing at all have I offended
G2541 G5100 G264

Additional Cross-References

Acts 24:12 (Temple): And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:

Acts 28:17 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

2 Corinthians 1:12 (Parallel theme): For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.

Jeremiah 37:18 (Parallel theme): Moreover Jeremiah said unto king Zedekiah, What have I offended against thee, or against thy servants, or against this people, that ye have put me in prison?

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