

Acts 28:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go,
because there was no cause of death in me.

Analysis

Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go (ἀνακρίναντές με ἐβούλοντο ἀπολῦσαι)—Paul cites Roman authorities' findings of innocence across multiple trials: Claudius Lysias (Acts 23:29), Felix (Acts 24:22-23), and Festus (Acts 25:25). The phrase **no cause of death in me** (μηδεμίαν αἰτίαν θανάτου) echoes Pilate's threefold declaration of Jesus' innocence (Luke 23:4, 14, 22). This parallel demonstrates how suffering for righteousness identifies believers with Christ. Paul's innocence exposed the Jewish leaders' charges as politically motivated persecution, not legitimate justice.

Historical Context

Roman governors repeatedly acknowledged Christianity posed no threat to imperial order. This legal precedent of Christianity's innocence became crucial for the church's survival under Roman law in subsequent decades.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does maintaining blameless conduct before civil authorities strengthen gospel witness?
2. What comfort does Christ's example of innocent suffering provide when you face unjust treatment?

Interlinear Text

οἵτινες	ἀνακρίναντές	με	ἐβούλοντο	ἀπολῦσαι	διὰ	
Who	when they had examined	me	would	have let me go	because	
G3748	G350	G3165	G1014	G630	G1223	
τὸ	μηδεμίαν	αἰτίαν	θανάτου	ὑπάρχειν	ἐν	ἐμοί·
G3588	no	cause	of death	there was	in	me
	G3367	G156	G2288	G5225	G1722	G1698

Additional Cross-References

Acts 23:29 (Parallel theme): 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.