

Acts 3:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

Analysis

Peter and John's visit to the temple at 'the ninth hour' (3 PM) shows continued Jewish observance by early believers. The 'hour of prayer' corresponded to the evening sacrifice. Their temple presence demonstrated that early Christianity didn't immediately break from Jewish worship patterns.

Historical Context

The ninth hour was one of three daily prayer times (Psalm 55:17). The apostles used these gatherings as evangelistic opportunities, speaking to receptive crowds already oriented toward worship.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How did the early church use existing religious structures for gospel witness?
2. What opportunities for witness exist in your regular worship patterns?

Interlinear Text

'Επὶ τὸ αὐτό δὲ Πέτρος καὶ Ἰωάννης ἀνέβαινον εἰς
together G3588 G846 Now Peter and John went up into
G1909 G1161 G4074 G2532 G2491 G305 G1519

τὸ ἱερὸν Ἐπὶ τὴν ὥραν τῆς προσευχῆς τὴν
G3588 the temple together G3588 at the hour G3588 of prayer G3588
G2411 G1909 G5610 G4335

ἐννάτην
being the ninth
G1766

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 55:17 (Prayer): Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Acts 10:3 (Parallel theme): He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

Acts 4:13 (References Peter): Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

Luke 1:10 (Prayer): And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

Acts 5:25 (Temple): Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

Luke 24:53 (Temple): And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Acts 8:14 (References Peter): Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

Daniel 6:10 (Prayer): Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Acts 2:46 (Temple): And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Exodus 29:39 (Parallel theme): The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even:

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