

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

Psalms 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

Ἐπὶ	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	ἱερόν	Ἐπὶ	τὴν	ῥαβ	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: