

Acts 3:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Analysis

Christ remains in heaven 'until the times of restitution of all things' (apokatastasis) - complete restoration of God's purposes. This phrase doesn't teach universal salvation but creation's full renewal. God's prophetic promises 'since the world began' find fulfillment in Christ.

Historical Context

The concept of cosmic restoration appears in Isaiah 65:17, Romans 8:19-22, and Revelation 21:1-5. Jewish expectation anticipated messianic renewal of all things.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does 'restitution of all things' include in God's redemptive plan?
2. How should future hope shape present engagement with a broken world?

Interlinear Text

ὧν δεῖ οὐρανὸν μὲν δέξασθαι ἄχρι χρόνων
Whom must the heaven receive until the times
G3739 G1163 G3772 G3303 G1209 G891 G5550

ἀποκαταστάσεως πάντων, ὃν ἐλάλησεν ὁ θεὸς διὰ
of restitution of all Whom hath spoken God by
G605 G3956 G3739 G2980 G3588 G2316 G1223

στόματος πάντων, ἀγίων αὐτοῦ προφητῶν ἀπ'
the mouth of all holy prophets since
G4750 G3956 G40 G846 G4396 G575

αἰῶνος
the world began
G165

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:21 (References God): Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Isaiah 1:26 (Parallel theme): And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city.

Acts 1:11 (Parallel theme): Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Revelation 22:6 (Holy): And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Luke 1:70 (Holy): As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

2 Peter 1:21 (Holy): For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

