

Acts 3:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

Analysis

The warning - 'every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed' - applies Deuteronomy's curse to Christ-rejectors. Being 'destroyed from among the people' means covenant exclusion. Rejection of Jesus excludes from God's people regardless of Jewish lineage.

Historical Context

This severe warning echoed Deuteronomy 18:19's judicial consequences for ignoring God's prophet. Peter applies it to those who reject Jesus, warning that ethnic Israel offers no protection.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this warning challenge presumption based on religious heritage?

2. What does exclusion 'from among the people' mean for those rejecting Christ?

Interlinear Text

ἔσται	δὲ	πᾶσα	ψυχὴ	ἥτις	ἄν	μὴ	ἀκούσῃ
it shall come to pass	And	that every	soul	which	G302	not	hear
G2071	G1161	G3956	G5590	G3748		G3361	G191
τοῦ προφήτου ἐκείνου ἐξολοθρευθήσεται					ἐκ		τοῦ
G3588	prophet	that		shall be destroyed		from among	G3588
	G4396	G1565		G1842		G1537	
λαοῦ							
the people							
G2992							

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 18:19 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

John 12:48 (Parallel theme): He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

Revelation 20:15 (Parallel theme): And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Hebrews 10:39 (Parallel theme): But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Hebrews 12:25 (Parallel theme): See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: