

Acts 4:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

Analysis

The command to 'put them forth out of the council' while they 'conferred among themselves' reveals corrupt deliberation - excluding the accused from defense violates justice. The Greek 'symballō' (conferred) suggests adversarial discussion seeking strategy, not truth. This scene parallels Jesus' trial (Mark 14:55) where the same council sought false testimony. Truth fears examination; lies require secrecy.

Historical Context

Jewish legal procedure required accusers and accused to remain present during deliberation. The council's violation of their own law demonstrated desperation - they had no legal case but sought political solution. This pattern of secret counsel against God's anointed fulfilled Psalm 2:2.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does truth's cause benefit from open examination while error requires secrecy?

2. What does the council's procedural violations reveal about power's corruption when opposing God?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------|------------|-------|-------------|
| κελεύσαντες | δὲ | αὐτοὺς | ἐξω | τοῦ | συνεδρίου |
| when they had commanded | But | them | out of | G3588 | the council |
| G2753 | G1161 | G846 | G1854 | | G4892 |
| ἀπελθεῖν | συνέβαλον | πρὸς | ἀλλήλους | | |
| to go aside | they conferred | among | themselves | | |
| G565 | G4820 | G4314 | G240 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 5:22 (Parallel theme): But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org