

Acts 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

Analysis

The note that 'the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed' emphasizes the healing's magnitude. Forty years of lameness made the cure medically impossible, requiring supernatural explanation. The Greek 'sēmeion' (miracle, sign) indicates this healing pointed beyond itself to greater reality - Christ's power over all infirmity, physical and spiritual. The passive voice 'was shewed' attributes healing to divine agency, not human ability.

Historical Context

Ancient medical knowledge recognized that congenital or long-term lameness was incurable - atrophied muscles and deformed bones couldn't heal naturally. Forty years exceeded most ancient lifespans' half, making this man's condition and cure well-documented. His age and condition made skeptical dismissal impossible.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do 'impossible' cases magnify God's glory and authenticate gospel truth?

2. What does physical healing point to regarding Christ's power over spiritual infirmity?

Interlinear Text

ἐτῶν	γὰρ	ἥν	πλειόνων	τεσσαράκοντα	ό	ἄνθρωπος
years old	For	was	above	forty	G3588	the man
G2094	G1063	G2258	G4119	G5062		G444
ἐφ'	δὲν	ἐγεγόνει	τὸ	σημεῖον	τοῦτο	τῆς
on	whom	was shewed	G3588	miracle	this	G3588
G1909	G3739	G1096		G4592	G5124	G2392
ιάσεως	of healing					

Additional Cross-References

Acts 9:33 (Parallel theme): And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

Acts 3:2 (Parallel theme): And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

Matthew 9:20 (Parallel theme): And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

John 9:1 (Parallel theme): And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

John 5:5 (Parallel theme): And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

Luke 13:11 (Parallel theme): And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.