

Acts 4:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Analysis

Apostolic witness to resurrection formed Christianity's core message, demonstrating that early preaching centered on historical event, not mere ethical teaching. 'Great power' (Greek 'dunamis') indicates Spirit-enabled boldness and authenticating miracles. 'Great grace upon them all' shows divine favor enabling their mission and attracting converts.

Historical Context

Despite threats from the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:18-21), the apostles continued public testimony in Jerusalem. Their message's emphasis on resurrection directly challenged Sadducean theology and explained Jesus' empty tomb to curious crowds.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Why is the resurrection central to Christian witness rather than merely Jesus' teachings?
2. How does God's grace empower bold testimony in hostile environments?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	μεγάλη	δυνάμει	ἀπεδίδουν	τὸ	μαρτύριον	οἱ
And G2532	great G3173	power G1411	gave G591	G3588	witness G3142	G3588
ἀπόστολοι	τῆς	ἀναστάσεως	τοῦ	κυρίου	Ἰησοῦ	χάρις
the apostles G652	G3588	of the resurrection G386	G3588	of the Lord G2962	Jesus G2424	grace G5485
τε	μεγάλη	ἦν	ἐπὶ	πάντας	αὐτούς	
and G5037	great G3173	was G2258	upon G1909	all G3956	them G846	

Additional Cross-References

John 1:16 (Grace): And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

Acts 1:8 (Witness): But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:22 (Resurrection): Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

Acts 4:30 (References Jesus): By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Acts 2:47 (References Lord): Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Mark 16:20 (References Lord): And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 1:5 (Parallel theme): For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

Luke 2:52 (References Jesus): And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Hebrews 2:4 (Witness): God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

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