

Acts 5:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

Analysis

The statement 'by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people' attributes miracles to divine agency through apostolic ministry. The Greek 'dia tōn cheirōn' (by the hands) emphasizes instrumentality - apostles were conduits, not sources. 'Many signs and wonders' validated the message. The church meeting 'with one accord in Solomon's porch' showed public visibility and unity despite opposition. Solomon's porch provided prominent temple location, demonstrating boldness in claiming Jewish religious space for Christian proclamation.

Historical Context

Solomon's porch (colonnade) on temple's east side offered shade for teaching. Jesus taught there (John 10:23). Early church's continued temple worship while maintaining distinct identity through baptism and Lord's Supper shows transitional period before Judaism-Christianity split. The public meeting space facilitated evangelism.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do 'signs and wonders' serve gospel proclamation without becoming entertainment?
2. What does meeting 'with one accord' teach about unity's role in effective witness?

Interlinear Text

Διὰ δὲ τῶν χειρῶν τῶν ἀποστόλων ἐγένετο σημεῖα
by And ^{G3588} **the hands** ^{G3588} **of the apostles** **were** **signs**
G1223 G1161 G5495 G652 G1096 G4592

καὶ τέρατα ἐν τῷ λαῷ· πολλὰ καὶ ἦσαν
(and wonders among ^{G3588} **the people many** **(and they were**
G2532 G5059 G1722 G2992 G4183 G2532 G2258

ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἅπαντες ἐν τῇ Στοᾷ Σολομῶντος
with one accord all among ^{G3588} **porch Solomon's**
G3661 G537 G1722 G4745 G4672

Additional Cross-References

Acts 19:11 (Parallel theme): And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

2 Corinthians 12:12 (Parallel theme): Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

Hebrews 2:4 (Parallel theme): 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?

Acts 14:3 (Parallel theme): Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Acts 3:11 (Parallel theme): And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

Romans 15:19 (Parallel theme): Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

John 10:23 (Parallel theme): And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.

Acts 1:14 (Parallel theme): These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

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

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