

Acts 5:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow.

Analysis

The report - 'Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people' - must have astonished authorities. The Greek 'idou' (behold) introduces shocking revelation. The phrase 'standing in the temple' (same location as arrest) showed audacious obedience to angelic command despite danger. That they were 'teaching the people' demonstrated priorities: immediate return to mission, not self-protection. This boldness testified to supernatural empowerment.

Historical Context

The messenger's report confirmed apostles' return to exact activity and location causing arrest. Temple's proximity to Sanhedrin chambers meant authorities could quickly verify. The apostles' visibility ('standing... teaching') showed no attempt at concealment, maximizing witness despite risk.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What does returning immediately to the same activity in the same location teach about Spirit-empowered courage?
2. How does prioritizing mission over safety distinguish genuine from counterfeit faith?

Interlinear Text

ὥς δὲ ἤκουσαν τοὺς λόγους τούτους ὃ τε
when **Now** **heard** G3588 **things** **these** G3588 G5037
G5613 G1161 G191 G3056 G5128

ἱερεὺς καὶ ὁ στρατηγὸς τοῦ ἱεροῦ καὶ οἱ
the high priest **and** G3588 **the captain** G3588 **of the temple** **and** G3588
G2409 G2532 G4755 G2411 G2532

ἀρχιερεῖς διηπόρουν περὶ αὐτῶν τί ἂν γένοιτο
the chief priests **they doubted** **of** **them** **whereunto** G302 **would grow**
G749 G1280 G4012 G846 G5101 G1096

τοῦτο
this
G5124

Additional Cross-References

Acts 5:26 (Parallel theme): Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

Acts 4:1 (Temple): And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,