

Acts 7:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

Analysis

Moses attempted reconciliation between fighting Hebrews, addressing them as 'brethren' - emphasizing their covenant relationship that should produce unity. Yet even this peacemaking effort was rejected. The Greek word *synellasen* (appeared to them) suggests Moses' visible presence as mediator, foreshadowing Christ's mediatorial role. Reformed theology sees here the tragedy of a divided people who should be one in covenant bonds, requiring a greater Moses to truly reconcile God's people.

Historical Context

Hebrew slavery in Egypt created internal conflicts as oppression often turns victims against each other rather than uniting them against oppressors. Moses' intervention anticipated his future role as lawgiver and judge over Israel.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' call for reconciliation among 'brethren' apply to divisions within the church today?
2. Why is Christ the only Mediator who can truly reconcile those in covenant relationship?
3. What are the spiritual dangers of internal strife among God's covenant people?

Interlinear Text

τῇ τε ἐπιούσῃ ἡμέρᾳ ὧφθη αὐτοὺς μαχομένοις
G3588 **And** **the next** **day** **he shewed himself** **them** **as they strove**
G5037 G1966 G2250 G3700 G846 G3164

καὶ συνήλασεν αὐτοὺς εἰς εἰρήνην εἰπὼν Ἄνδρες
and **would have set** **them** **at** **one again** **saying** **Sirs**
G2532 G4900 G846 G1519 G1515 G2036 G435

ἀδελφοί ἐστε· ὑμεῖς· ἵνατί ἀδικεῖτε ἀλλήλους
brethren **are** **ye** **why** **do ye wrong** **one to another**
G80 G2075 G5210 G2444 G91 G240

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