

Acts 9:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in,
and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Analysis

Saul had seen in a vision 'a man named Ananias' coming to restore his sight. God prepared both men through visions for their meeting - Ananias needed courage to approach the notorious persecutor, Saul needed assurance that Ananias' coming was God's doing. This dual preparation shows God's providence in bringing together unlikely partners for His purposes. The promise of restored sight pointed to both physical and spiritual sight. Reformed theology sees God's meticulous care in salvation - orchestrating every detail to accomplish His electing purposes.

Historical Context

Visions and direct divine communication were common in the apostolic era as God established the church and revealed new covenant truth. Both Saul and Ananias received supernatural guidance for this crucial meeting that would launch Paul's apostleship.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Why did God prepare both Saul and Ananias through visions for their meeting?
2. How does restored sight symbolize the spiritual illumination of conversion?
3. What does God's detailed orchestration teach about His involvement in salvation?

Interlinear Text

καὶ εἶδεν ἐν ὁράματι ἄνδρα ὀνόματι Ἀνανίαν
And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias
G2532 G1492 G1722 G3705 G435 G3686 G367

εἰσελθόντα καὶ ἐπιθέντα αὐτῷ χεῖρα, ὅπως
coming in And on him his hand that
G1525 G2532 G2007 G846 G5495 G3704

ἀναβλέψῃ
he might receive his sight
G308

Additional Cross-References

Mark 5:23 (Parallel theme): And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.