

Acts 9:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Analysis

Ananias' obedient visit to Saul demonstrates remarkable faith overcoming legitimate fear—the Lord commanded him to minister to Christianity's chief persecutor. Addressing Saul as 'brother' immediately includes him in the believing community despite his past. This encounter shows God uses ordinary believers, not just apostles, for strategic ministry.

Historical Context

Three days after Saul's Damascus Road encounter (AD 34-35), Ananias received vision-directed instructions to find him at Judas' house on Straight Street. Ananias' obedience enabled Saul's baptism and Spirit-filling, launching history's greatest missionary.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How can Christians overcome fear to minister to unlikely or dangerous people when God calls?
2. What does Ananias' role in Saul's conversion teach about ordinary believers' importance in God's plans?

Interlinear Text

Ἀπῆλθεν	δὲ	Ἀνανίας	καὶ	εἰσῆλθεν	εἰς	τὴν	οἰκίαν	καὶ
went his way	And	Ananias	and	entered	into	G3588	the house	and
G565	G1161	G367	G2532	G1525	G1519		G3614	G2532
ἐπιθεὶς	ἐπ'	αὐτὸν	τὰς	χεῖρας	εἶπεν	Σαοὺλ	ἀδελφέ	ὁ
putting	on	him	G3588	his hands	said	Saul	Brother	G3588
G2007	G1909	G846		G5495	G2036	G4549	G80	
κύριος	ἀπέσταλκέν	με	Ἰησοῦς	ὁ	ὀφθεῖς	σοι	ἐν	
the Lord	hath sent	me	even Jesus	G3588	that appeared	unto thee	in	
G2962	G649	G3165	G2424		G3700	G4671	G1722	
τῇ	ὁδῷ	ἣ	ἦρχου	ὅπως	ἀναβλέψης	καὶ		
G3588	the way	as	thou camest	that	thou mightest receive thy sight	and		
	G3598	G3739	G2064	G3704	G308	G2532		
πλησθῆς	πνεύματος	ἁγίου						
be filled with	Ghost	the Holy						
G4130	G4151	G40						

Additional Cross-References

Acts 8:17 (Holy): Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Acts 6:6 (Parallel theme): Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

Acts 2:4 (Holy): And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 13:52 (Holy): And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

1 Timothy 5:22 (Parallel theme): Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

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