

John 1:45

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

Analysis

Philip finds Nathanael with testimony grounded in Scripture: 'We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth.' This connects Jesus to the entire Old Testament witness—the law (Pentateuch) and the prophets testify of Him. Philip's evangelism combines personal witness ('we have found') with scriptural foundation ('Moses and the prophets'). Effective witness connects personal experience with biblical authority.

Historical Context

The Old Testament contains extensive messianic prophecy—the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), Shiloh (Genesis 49:10), the Prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15), and countless prophetic predictions. Philip rightly sees Jesus as the fulfillment of all these threads. His appeal to Scripture models apologetic method—Christ is validated by ancient prophecy.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does seeing Jesus throughout the Old Testament enrich your understanding of Scripture?
2. How can we effectively combine personal testimony with biblical witness in evangelism?

Interlinear Text

εὐρήκαμεν	Φίλιππος	τὸν	Ναθαναήλ	καὶ	λέγει	αὐτῷ	
We have found	Philip	G3588	Nathanael	and	saith	unto him	
G2147	G5376		G3482	G2532	G3004	G846	
ὃν	ἔγραψεν	Μωσῆς	ἐν	τῷ	νόμῳ	καὶ οἱ	
him of whom	did write	Moses	in	G3588	the law	and	G3588
G3739	G1125	G3475	G1722		G3551	G2532	
προφῆται	εὐρήκαμεν	Ἰησοῦν	τὸν	υἱὸν	τοῦ	Ἰωσήφ	τὸν
the prophets	We have found	Jesus	G3588	the son	G3588	of Joseph	G3588
G4396	G2147	G2424		G5207		G2501	
ἀπὸ	Ναζαρέτ						
of	Nazareth						
G575	G3478						

Additional Cross-References

Luke 24:27 (Word): And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Micah 5:2 (Parallel theme): But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Luke 24:44 (Word): And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Matthew 2:23 (Prophecy): And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Isaiah 7:14 (Parallel theme): Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Zechariah 9:9 (Parallel theme): Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Luke 4:22 (Word): And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

Isaiah 9:6 (Parallel theme): For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 53:2 (Parallel theme): For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

Zechariah 6:12 (Parallel theme): And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: