

John 5:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee,
Take up thy bed, and walk?

Analysis

The interrogators' focus on 'What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?' reveals their priority—catching a Sabbath violator matters more than celebrating healing. This exemplifies how religious externalism can blind us to God's work. They care more about regulation than restoration.

Historical Context

The religious leaders' investigation reflects their role as guardians of Sabbath observance. Their question format seeks to identify and prosecute the 'lawbreaker' rather than understand the miracle's significance.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How can zeal for religious rules blind us to God's compassionate work among people?
2. What does this question reveal about misplaced priorities in religious systems?

Interlinear Text

ἠρώτησαν οὖν αὐτόν Τίς ἐστὶν τὸν ἄνθρωπος
asked they **Then** **him** ^{G5101} **is** **that which** **man**
G2065 G3767 G846 G2076 G3588 G444

τὸν εἰπὼν σοι Ἄρον τὸν κράββατον σου καὶ
that which **said** **unto thee** **Take up** **that which** **bed** **thy** **and**
G3588 G2036 G4671 G142 G3588 G2895 G4675 G2532

περιπάτει
walk
G4043

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 21:23 (Parallel theme): And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?
