

John 5:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole.

Analysis

The man's reporting to the Jews that 'it was Jesus which had made him whole' appears either naively informative or deliberately betraying. John doesn't clarify his motive, but the result is intensified opposition to Jesus. Even acts of witness can be used for hostile purposes when hearts are hardened.

Historical Context

The man's disclosure enabled the authorities to identify and confront Jesus about Sabbath healing. Whether he intended to inform or accuse, his report initiated formal opposition that would eventually lead to crucifixion.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How can our testimony about Christ's work be received hostilely depending on hearers' hearts?
2. What does this episode teach about the complexity of witness in hostile environments?

Interlinear Text

ἀπῆλθεν	ο	ἄνθρωπος	καὶ	ἀνήγγειλεν	ο	Ἰουδαίοις
departed	which	The man	and	told	which	the Jews
G565	G3588	G444	G2532	G312	G3588	G2453
ὅτι	Ἰησοῦς	ἐστιν	ο	ποιήσας	αὐτὸν	ύγιη
that	Jesus	it was	which	had made	him	whole
G3754	G2424	G2076	G3588	G4160	G846	G5199

Additional Cross-References

John 4:29 (Parallel theme): Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

Mark 1:45 (References Jesus): But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

John 9:25 (Parallel theme): He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.

John 9:15 (Parallel theme): Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see.

John 1:19 (Parallel theme): And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?

John 9:34 (Parallel theme): They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

John 5:12 (Parallel theme): Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?

John 9:30 (Parallel theme): The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes.

