

Luke 1:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.

Analysis

Zacharias's faithful completion of his priestly service despite his supernatural experience and physical condition demonstrates true devotion. The phrase 'as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished' shows he didn't abandon duty for personal crisis. His return home marks the transition from temple service to domestic life where God's promise would be fulfilled. This pattern—faithful service followed by God's blessing in private life—teaches that God honors those who fulfill their callings before seeking personal benefit. Zacharias's example shows that extraordinary divine encounters don't excuse ordinary responsibilities.

Historical Context

The priestly course served for one week twice yearly. Despite his muteness preventing the pronouncement of blessings, Zacharias completed his assigned duties. His return home to the hill country of Judea began the period during which Elisabeth would conceive.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does faithful completion of current duties prepare us for future blessings?
2. What does Zacharias's continued service despite difficulty teach about perseverance?
3. How do we balance extraordinary spiritual experiences with ordinary responsibilities?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐγένετο	ώς	ἐπλήσθησαν	αἱ	ἡμέραι	τῆς
And	it came to pass	that as soon as	were accomplished	G3588	the days	G3588
G2532	G1096	G5613	G4130		G2250	
λειτουργίας	αὐτοῦ	ἀπῆλθεν	εἰς	τὸν	οἶκον	αὐτοῦ
of his ministration	G846	he departed	to	G3588	house	G846
G3009		G565	G1519		G3624	

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 9:25 (Parallel theme): And their brethren, which were in their villages, were to come after seven days from time to time with them.

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