

Luke 13:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee.

Analysis

Pharisees approach with a warning: 'The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee.' The Pharisees' warning seems helpful but may have been intended to manipulate Jesus away from their territory. Herod Antipas, who ruled Galilee and Perea, had beheaded John the Baptist (Luke 9:9) and wanted to see Jesus (Luke 9:9, 23:8). Whether the threat was real or fabricated, it provided an opportunity for Jesus to clarify His mission's divine timing and protection. Jesus was not naively trusting but sovereignly aware—He would die in Jerusalem according to God's plan, not prematurely at Herod's whim in Galilee.

Historical Context

Herod Antipas was the son of Herod the Great and ruled Galilee and Perea (4 BC - AD 39). He married his brother's wife Herodias, which John the Baptist condemned (Luke 3:19-20), leading to John's execution. Herod was politically shrewd, maintaining power through Roman favor and careful management of Jewish sensibilities. His interest in Jesus combined curiosity and threat—he wanted to see a miracle (Luke 23:8) but also saw Jesus as potentially dangerous. Jesus' ministry largely avoided Herodian territory after this warning, focusing on the journey to Jerusalem.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' response to Herod's threat demonstrate confidence in God's sovereign timing and protection?
2. What does this incident teach about navigating political threats while remaining faithful to divine mission?
3. How should Christians respond when authorities threaten or oppose gospel ministry?

Interlinear Text

Ἐν	αὐτῷ	τῇ	ἡμέρᾳ	προσῆλθόν	τινες	Φαρισαῖοι
The same	unto him	G3588	day	there came	certain	of the Pharisees
G1722	G846		G2250	G4334	G5100	G5330

λέγοντες	αὐτῷ	Ἔξελθε	καὶ	πορεύου	ἐντεῦθεν	ὅτι
saying	unto him	Get thee out	and	depart	hence	for
G3004	G846	G1831	G2532	G4198	G1782	G3754

Ἡρώδης	θέλει	σε	ἀποκτεῖναι
Herod	will	thee	kill
G2264	G2309	G4571	G615