

Luke 17:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

Analysis

Journey context: 'And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.' Luke again notes Jesus' determined journey 'to Jerusalem' (εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ, eis Ierousalēm), emphasizing the cross's centrality. The route 'through the midst of Samaria and Galilee' (διὰ μέσον Σαμαρείας καὶ Γαλιλαίας, dia meson Samareias kai Galilaias) took Jesus through the border region between these territories. This geographical note sets up the healing of ten lepers (vv. 12-19), one of whom was a Samaritan. The detail establishes that Jesus' ministry transcended ethnic boundaries and that gratitude (or its absence) isn't determined by ethnicity—even despised Samaritans could demonstrate faith and thankfulness lacking in Jews.

Historical Context

The journey to Jerusalem dominates Luke 9:51-19:27, providing the narrative framework for much of Jesus' teaching. Jerusalem represented both Israel's religious center and the place of prophets' deaths (Luke 13:33-34). Jesus' determined progress toward His crucifixion demonstrates His obedient fulfillment of the Father's will. The border region between Samaria and Galilee was ethnically mixed, which explains how the leper band included both Jews and Samaritans (v. 16). Normally, Jews and Samaritans avoided each other due to centuries of ethnic and religious hostility (John 4:9). But shared affliction created community among these outcasts—leprosy transcended ethnic divisions, uniting sufferers in common misery.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' journey to Jerusalem demonstrate obedience to God's will despite knowing suffering awaited?
2. What does the mixed Jewish-Samaritan leper group teach about how suffering can transcend social divisions?
3. How should Jesus' deliberate movement toward the cross shape Christian willingness to embrace difficult callings?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ πορεύεσθαι αὐτὸς εἰς
And **it came to pass** **as** ^{G3588} **went** **he** **to**
G2532 G1096 G1722 G4198 G846 G1519

Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ αὐτὸς διήρχετο διὰ μέσου Σαμαρείας
Jerusalem **And** **he** **passed** **through** **the midst** **of Samaria**
G2419 G2532 G846 G1330 G1223 G3319 G4540

καὶ Γαλιλαίας
And **Galilee**
G2532 G1056