

Luke 18:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him:
and when he was come near, he asked him,

Analysis

And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him (σταθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ἀχθῆναι πρὸς αὐτόν, statheis de ho Iēsous ekeleusen auton achthēnai pros auton)—Statheis (having stood, stopped) is decisive. Jesus halts the entire procession for one marginalized man. Keleuō (to command, order) carries authority—what the crowd tried to prevent, Jesus mandates. The aorist passive infinitive achthēnai (to be brought) means others must escort the blind man through the crowd that had blocked him.

This reversal is radical: the rebukers become facilitators. Those who said 'be quiet' must now say 'come.' Jesus's authority transforms gatekeepers into servants. **And when he was come near, he asked him** (ἐγγίσαντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτόν, engisantos de autou epērōtēsen auton)—the genitive absolute engisantos (having come near) shows progressive movement. Jesus doesn't shout questions from distance but waits for proximity, honoring the man with personal attention.

Historical Context

Rabbis rarely initiated contact with beggars or disabled persons, who were often considered under divine curse (cf. John 9:2's question about sin causing blindness). Jesus's stopping and commanding the man's approach upends social and religious convention, demonstrating kingdom values that prioritize people over protocol.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus's stopping for one desperate person challenge our efficiency-driven culture that values productivity over people?
2. What does requiring the crowd to bring the beggar teach about communal responsibility for marginalized access to Christ?
3. When has Jesus halted your planned agenda to redirect attention to someone you'd overlooked?

Interlinear Text

σταθεῖς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκέλευσεν αὐτόν ἀχθῆναι
stood **And** ^{G3588} **Jesus** **and commanded** **he** **to be brought**
G2476 G1161 G2424 G2753 G846 G71

πρὸς αὐτόν ἐγγίσαντος δὲ αὐτόν ἐπηρώτησεν
unto **he** **when he was come near** **And** **he** **asked**
G4314 G846 G1448 G1161 G846 G1905

αὐτόν
he
G846