

Luke 4:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.

Analysis

Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him. The phrase *dynontos de tou hēliou* (δύνοντος δὲ τοῦ ἡλίου, the sun setting) marks the end of Sabbath restrictions. People had waited until Sabbath ended (sunset Saturday) to carry their sick to Jesus. The phrase *poikilais nosois* (ποικίλαις νόσοις, various diseases) emphasizes the diversity of conditions—Jesus healed all types of illness.

And he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them. The phrase *heni hekastō autōn* (ἐνὶ ἑκάστῳ αὐτῶν, each one of them) emphasizes Jesus' personal attention to each individual. Despite the crowds, He took time to lay hands on each person individually. The verb *etherapeuen* (ἐθεράπευεν, healed) is imperfect tense, indicating continuous action—He kept healing, one after another, showing both power and compassion.

Historical Context

Sabbath law prohibited carrying burdens (Jeremiah 17:21-22, Nehemiah 13:19), so people waited until sunset (when Sabbath officially ended) to transport their sick to Jesus. This created a massive healing service at Peter's house as crowds converged after sunset. Jesus' willingness to minister to each person individually, despite exhaustion from teaching and earlier miracles, demonstrates His compassion and tireless service. The laying on of hands was a gesture of blessing

and identification, showing Jesus' personal involvement in each healing. This marathon healing session revealed both Jesus' supernatural power (no human could sustain such ministry) and His shepherd's heart.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does the crowd waiting until sunset reveal about their commitment to both Sabbath law and seeking Jesus?
2. How does Jesus' individual attention to each sick person (despite massive crowds) demonstrate His compassion and concern for individuals?
3. What does Jesus' tireless healing ministry teach about His divine nature and servant heart?

Interlinear Text

Δύνοντος δὲ τοῦ ἡλίου πάντες ὅσοι εἶχον
was setting Now G3588 when the sun all they that had
G1416 G1161 G2246 G3956 G3745 G2192

ἀσθενοῦντας νόσοις ποικίλαις ἤγαγον αὐτούς πρὸς
any sick diseases with divers brought him unto
G770 G3554 G4164 G71 G846 G4314

αὐτούς ὁ δὲ ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ αὐτούς τὰς χεῖρας ἐπιθεὶς,
him G3588 Now one every him G3588 his hands he laid
G846 G1161 G1520 G1538 G846 G5495 G2007

ἐθεράπευσεν αὐτούς
and healed him
G2323 G846

Additional Cross-References

Mark 5:23 (Parallel theme): And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

Acts 19:12 (Parallel theme): So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

Acts 5:15 (Parallel theme): Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

Mark 3:10 (Parallel theme): For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

Matthew 11:5 (Parallel theme): The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Matthew 14:13 (Parallel theme): When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities.

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