

Luke 7:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying,
That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath
visited his people.

Analysis

After the resurrection miracle, people responded: 'There came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.' The 'fear' (Greek 'phobos,' φόβος) is holy awe, not terror—appropriate response to divine power. They glorified God, recognizing Jesus' power as divine. Calling Him 'a great prophet' shows partial understanding—He was more than a prophet, but they recognized God working through Him. The phrase 'God hath visited his people' (Greek 'epeskepsato ho theos ton laon autou,' ἐπεσκέψατο ὁ θεὸς τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ) means God intervened redemptively in human history.

Historical Context

The phrase 'God hath visited his people' echoes Exodus 4:31 (God visiting Israel in Egyptian bondage) and reflects Jewish hope that God would again intervene in their oppression (now Roman). Prophetic expectation included divine visitation in the messianic age. The people correctly recognized God's presence in Jesus, though they didn't yet understand the full incarnation—God didn't merely visit through Jesus but came as Jesus. Their response—fear, praise, recognition of divine action—was appropriate. This miracle confirmed Jesus as more than a teacher; He wielded divine power over death itself.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What does the crowd's response of fear and glorifying God teach about proper reaction to divine power?
2. How does the recognition that 'God hath visited his people' point toward understanding the incarnation—God present in Christ?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------------|-------|-------|
| ἔλαβεν | δὲ | φόβος | ἅπαντας, | καὶ | ἐδόξαζον | τὸν | θεὸς |
| there came | And | a fear | on all | and | they glorified | G3588 | God |
| G2983 | G1161 | G5401 | G537 | G2532 | G1392 | | G2316 |
| λέγοντες | ὅτι | Προφήτης | μέγας | ἐγήγερται | ἐν | ἡμῖν | καὶ |
| saying | That | prophet | a great | is risen up | among | us | and |
| G3004 | G3754 | G4396 | G3173 | G1453 | G1722 | G2254 | G2532 |
| ὅτι | Ἐπεσκέψατο | ὁ | θεὸς | τὸν | λαὸν | αὐτοῦ | |
| That | hath visited | G3588 | God | G3588 | people | G846 | |
| G3754 | G1980 | | G2316 | | G2992 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 9:8 (Glory): But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

Luke 7:39 (Resurrection): Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.

Jeremiah 33:9 (Resurrection): And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.

Luke 1:68 (References God): Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

Psalms 65:9 (References God): Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

Exodus 4:31 (Parallel theme): And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

Matthew 21:11 (Prophecy): And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

Matthew 15:31 (Glory): Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Luke 2:20 (References God): And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Luke 1:65 (Parallel theme): And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea.