

Luke 7:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about.

Analysis

And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about. The Greek word for "rumour" is ὁ λόγος οὗτος (ho logos houtos), literally "this word" or "this report"—not idle gossip but significant news about Jesus' identity and power. The verb "went forth" (ἐξῆλθεν, exēlthen, aorist) indicates the rapid, forceful spread of news about the Nain resurrection. The geographical scope is comprehensive: "all Judaea" (ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, en holē tē Ioudaia) refers to the broader Jewish territory, while "all the region round about" (περιχώρῳ, perichōrō) includes surrounding areas like Galilee, Samaria, and the Decapolis.

This widespread report accomplishes two theological purposes: it fulfills messianic expectation by demonstrating the marks of the Messiah (Isaiah 26:19, 35:5-6), and it creates accountability—those who heard this testimony would be responsible for their response to Jesus. The verse connects to the previous declaration that "a great prophet is risen" and "God hath visited his people" (v. 16). The spreading report forces a decision: Is Jesus merely a prophet, or something more? The miracle's publicity sets the stage for John the Baptist's question (vv. 18-19): "Art thou he that should come?"

Historical Context

First-century Palestine had no mass media, so news traveled through oral networks—pilgrims, merchants, and travelers spreading reports from town to

town. The strategic location of Nain on major trade routes facilitated rapid dissemination of this extraordinary event. "All Judaea" in Luke often means the Jewish world broadly, not just the southern province. The report's spread created messianic expectations and increased religious leaders' concern about Jesus' growing influence, ultimately contributing to the opposition that led to His crucifixion.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the widespread proclamation of Jesus' miracles create spiritual accountability for those who hear?
2. What should be the Christian response to Christ's mighty works—mere amazement or life-transforming faith?
3. How does this verse challenge believers to be faithful witnesses who spread the report of Christ's power and grace?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐξῆλθεν	ό	λόγος	οὗτος	ἐν	ὅλῃ	τῇ	Ἰουδαίᾳ
And	went forth	G3588	rumour	this	throughout	all	G3588	Judea
G2532	G1831		G3056	G3778	G1722	G3650		G2449
περὶ	αὐτοῦ	καὶ	ἐν	πάσῃ	τῇ	περιχώρῳ		
of	him	And	throughout	all	G3588	the region round about		
G4012	G846	G2532	G1722	G3956		G4066		