

Luke 7:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

Analysis

And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. This verse describes Jesus' immediate response to John's disciples' question—not verbal argumentation but demonstrative proof. The phrase "in that same hour" (ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ ὥρᾳ, en autē tē hōra) indicates Jesus performed these miracles while John's messengers watched, creating eyewitness testimony for John. The comprehensiveness of Jesus' healing ministry is emphasized: "infirmities" (νόσων, nosōn, diseases), "plagues" (μαστίγων, mastigōn, chronic afflictions or scourges), "evil spirits" (πνευμάτων πονηρῶν, pneumatōn ponērōn, demonic oppression), and blindness.

The verb "cured" (ἐθεράπευσεν, etherapeusen) implies thorough healing, not temporary relief. The phrase "gave sight" (ἐχαρίσατο βλέπειν, echarisato blepein) uses the verb χαρίζομαι (charizomai), meaning "to graciously give" or "bestow as a favor"—healing is grace, not merit. This demonstration fulfills Isaiah's messianic prophecies: "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened...the lame man leap...the tongue of the dumb sing" (Isaiah 35:5-6). Jesus creates a living fulfillment of prophecy for John's disciples to report back. His works testify to His identity—He is indeed ὁ ἐρχόμενος (ho erchomenos, the Coming One).

Historical Context

First-century Judaism understood that miraculous signs would accompany the messianic age. The prophets predicted comprehensive restoration—physical healing, spiritual renewal, social justice, and cosmic redemption. Jesus' miracles demonstrated the kingdom's arrival, though not in its consummated form. The healing of "many" indicates the substantial crowd that typically surrounded Jesus. These witnesses—the healed, the crowd, John's disciples—become living testimony to Jesus' messianic authority, fulfilling the prophetic pattern where God's deliverance is publicly demonstrated (Exodus miracles, Elijah/Elisha signs).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do Jesus' miraculous works serve as evidence of His messianic identity and the arrival of God's kingdom?
2. What does the comprehensiveness of Jesus' healing ministry (physical, spiritual, demonic) reveal about the scope of salvation?
3. How should believers today bear witness to Christ—through words alone or through demonstration of transformed lives and gospel power?

Interlinear Text

ἐν αὐτῇ δὲ τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐθεράπευσεν πολλοῖς ἀπὸ¹
in that same And G3588 hour he cured many of
G1722 G846 G1161 G5610 G2323 G4183 G575

νόσων καὶ μαστίγων καὶ πνευμάτων πονηρῶν καὶ²
their infirmities and plagues and spirits of evil and
G3554 G2532 G3148 G2532 G4151 G4190 G2532

τυφλοῖς πολλοῖς ἐχαρίσατο τὸ βλέπειν
that were blind many he gave sight
G5185 G4183 G5483 G3588 G991

Additional Cross-References

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.

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