

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

Psalms 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	ᾧρᾱ	ἐθεράπευσεν	πολλοῖς	ἀπὸ
in	that same	And	^{G3588}	hour	he cured	many	of
G1722	G846	G1161		G5610	G2323	G4183	G575
νόσων	καὶ	μαστίγων	καὶ	πνευμάτων	πονηρῶν	καὶ	
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	^{G3588}	sight			
G5185	G4183	G5483		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.
