

Luke 9:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,

Analysis

And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples, The phrase *exeplēssonto de pantes epi tē megaleiotēti tou Theou* (ἐξεπλήσσοντο δὲ πάντες ἐπὶ τῇ μεγαλειότητι τοῦ θεοῦ, "they were all astonished at the majesty of God") uses *exeplēssonto* (were struck with amazement) and *megaleiotēti* (μεγαλειότητι, "greatness," "majesty," or "mighty power")—God's transcendent power manifested through Jesus.

Luke emphasizes the crowd marveled at **the mighty power of God**, not merely Jesus' skill—the exorcism revealed divine authority. Yet **while they wondered** (*pantōn de thaumazontōn, πάντων δὲ θαυμαζόντων*, "while all were marveling") at His miracles, **he said unto his disciples** (εἶπεν πρὸς τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ)—Jesus redirected attention from spectacle to mission. The crowd's amazement was superficial—they wanted miracles without discipleship, power without the cross. Jesus immediately taught about His coming suffering (v. 44), showing that true faith embraces both Christ's power and His passion.

Historical Context

The crowd's amazement at Jesus' power was common—people flocked for miracles, healings, and exorcisms. Yet Jesus consistently redirected from sensationalism to discipleship. Many wanted a miracle-working Messiah who would overthrow Rome

and establish an earthly kingdom. Jesus refused this role, teaching that the kingdom comes through the cross. The contrast between crowd amazement and disciple instruction reflects Jesus' ministry pattern—public miracles demonstrated authority, but private teaching prepared disciples for the church age. After Pentecost, the apostles would perform similar miracles (Acts 3:1-10, 5:12-16), but always pointing to Christ crucified and risen, not sensational power.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Why does Luke emphasize the crowd marveled at God's power rather than merely Jesus' ability?
2. What danger exists in being amazed at Jesus' miracles while refusing His call to cross-bearing discipleship?
3. How does Jesus' immediate shift from public miracle to private instruction about suffering correct superficial faith?

Interlinear Text

ἐξεπλήσσοντο δὲ πᾶσιν ἐπὶ τῇ μεγαλειότητι τοῦ θεοῦ
amazed **And** **all** **at** ^{G3588} **the mighty power** ^{G3588} **of God**
G1605 G1161 G3956 G1909 G3168 G2316

πᾶσιν δὲ θαυμαζόντων ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ἐποίησεν ὁ
all **And** **while they wondered** **at** **all** **which** **did** ^{G3588}
G3956 G1161 G2296 G1909 G3956 G3739 G4160

Ἰησοῦς, εἶπεν πρὸς τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ
Jesus **he said** **unto** ^{G3588} **disciples** ^{G846}
G2424 G2036 G4314 G3101

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