

Mark 1:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

Analysis

Christ healed 'many' (not all who came, emphasizing His sovereign selection) and cast out demons, demonstrating authority over both physical and spiritual realms. His command that demons not speak reveals His rejection of testimony from unholy sources, even when true. Christ will not advance His kingdom through alliance with darkness, showing the absolute separation between light and darkness in spiritual warfare.

Historical Context

Jewish exorcism in the first century often involved elaborate rituals and incantations. Christ's simple command and complete success demonstrated supernatural authority. Demons' knowledge of Christ's identity reflected their spiritual perception, but their testimony was unacceptable to the holy God.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. Why did Christ refuse the testimony of demons even when they spoke truth about His identity?
2. How does Christ's healing of 'many' rather than all remind us of divine election and sovereignty?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐθεράπευσεν πολλὰ κακῶς ἔχοντας ποικίλαις νόσοις
And **he healed** **many** **sick** **that were** **of divers** **diseases**
G2532 G2323 G4183 G2560 G2192 G4164 G3554

καὶ δαιμόνια πολλὰ ἐξέβαλεν καὶ οὐκ ἤφιεν λαλεῖν
And **devils** **many** **cast out** **And** **not** **suffered** **to speak**
G2532 G1140 G4183 G1544 G2532 G3756 G863 G2980

τὰ δαιμόνια ὅτι ᾔδεισαν αὐτόν
G3588 **devils** **because** **they knew** **him**
G1140 G3754 G1492 G846

Additional Cross-References

Luke 4:41 (Evil): And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.

Mark 3:12 (Parallel theme): And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.

Matthew 4:23 (Parallel theme): And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.