

Mark 1:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Analysis

Christ's command to show himself to the priest follows Levitical law (Lev. 14:2-32), demonstrating His submission to divine ordinances. The offering serves as 'testimony unto them'—evidence to religious authorities of genuine healing and Christ's respect for Mosaic law. This refutes later charges that Christ opposed the Law; rather, He fulfilled it perfectly. The priest's verification would serve as official documentation of the miracle.

Historical Context

Levitical law required cleansed lepers to present themselves to priests for inspection, offer sacrifices (two birds, lambs, grain, and oil), and undergo seven days of purification rituals. This process restored them to community worship and social participation. Priests serving as medical inspectors was unique to Israel's theocratic system.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's adherence to Mosaic law demonstrate His role as fulfilling rather than abolishing the Law?
2. What does the 'testimony unto them' reveal about Christ's strategic use of miracles for apologetic purposes?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	λέγει	αὐτοῖς	Ὅρα	μηδέν	μηδέν	εἶπης	ἀλλ'	ὑπάγε
And	saith	unto him	See	nothing	nothing	thou say	but	go thy way
G2532	G3004	G846	G3708	G3367	G3367	G2036	G235	G5217
σεαυτὸν	δειξόν	τῷ	ἱερεῖ	καὶ	προσένεγκε	περὶ	τοῦ	
thyself	shew	G3588	to the priest	And	offer	for	G3588	
G4572	G1166		G2409	G2532	G4374	G4012		
καθαρισμοῦ	σου	ἃ	προσέταξεν		Μωσῆς,	εἰς		
cleansing	thy	G3739	commanded		those things which Moses	for		
G2512	G4675		G4367		G3475	G1519		
μαρτύριον	αὐτοῖς							
a testimony	unto him							
G3142	G846							

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 8:4 (Witness): And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Luke 17:14 (Parallel theme): And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

1 Corinthians 10:11 (Parallel theme): Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Romans 15:4 (Parallel theme): For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Luke 5:14 (Sin): And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

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