

Mark 10:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they were in the way going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus went before them: and they were amazed; and as they followed, they were afraid. And he took again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him,

Analysis

As Jesus journeyed toward Jerusalem, 'Jesus went before them: and they were amazed; and as they followed, they were afraid' (ἥν προάγων αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, καὶ ἐθαμβοῦντο, οἱ δὲ ἀκολουθοῦντες ἐφοβοῦντο). The verb 'went before' (proagōn, προάγων) shows Jesus leading deliberately toward His death. The disciples' amazement (ethambount, ἐθαμβοῦντο) and fear (ephobounto, ἐφοβοῦντο) reveal their growing awareness of danger. Jesus 'took again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him' (παραλαβὼν πάλιν τοὺς δώδεκα ἤρξατο αὐτοῖς λέγειν τὰ μέλλοντα αὐτῷ συμβαίνειν). This is the third explicit passion prediction. Jesus' deliberate march toward death demonstrates sovereign purpose—not passive victim but active Savior choosing the cross. His courage models faithful obedience despite certain suffering.

Historical Context

This journey occurred during Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem for Passover, spring AD 30 (or 33). The road from Galilee/Perea to Jerusalem ascended from sea level to 2,500 feet elevation—pilgrims literally 'went up to Jerusalem' (Acts 21:15). As they neared Jerusalem, tension mounted—Jesus' previous visits provoked increasing hostility (John 7:1, 19; 8:59; 10:31). The disciples sensed impending crisis. Jesus' third passion prediction (vv. 33-34) was most detailed yet, specifying betrayal,

condemnation, mocking, scourging, crucifixion, and resurrection. The specificity demonstrates Jesus' foreknowledge and voluntary submission to God's plan. Early church recognized that Jesus' death wasn't tragic accident but divinely ordained atonement (Acts 2:23; 4:27-28; 1 Peter 1:18-20).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' deliberate leading toward Jerusalem and death demonstrate sovereign choice rather than passive victimhood?
2. What does the disciples' fear alongside their continued following teach about faithful discipleship despite uncertainty and danger?

Interlinear Text

ἦν δὲ ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἀναβαίνοντες εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα
they were And in G3588 the way going up to Jerusalem
G2258 G1161 G1722 G3598 G305 G1519 G2414

καὶ ἦν προάγων αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἐθαμβοῦντο
And they were before them G3588 Jesus And they were amazed
G2532 G2258 G4254 G846 G2424 G2532 G2284

καὶ ἀκολουθοῦντες ἐφοβοῦντο καὶ παραλαβὼν πάλιν
And as they followed they were afraid And he took again
G2532 G190 G5399 G2532 G3880 G3825

τοὺς δώδεκα ἤρξατο αὐτῷ λέγειν τὰ μέλλοντα
the twelve and began them to tell G3588 what things should
G3588 G1427 G756 G846 G3004 G3588 G3195

αὐτῷ συμβαίνειν
them happen
G846 G4819

Additional Cross-References

Luke 9:51 (References Jerusalem): And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

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