

Mark 6:56

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.

Analysis

And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole. Wherever Jesus went—'villages, cities, or country'—people 'laid the sick in the streets' (marketplaces, ἀγορὰς, agoras). They 'besought him that they might touch... the border of his garment.' This echoed the hemorrhaging woman's faith (Mark 5:27-28). 'As many as touched him were made whole' (ὅσοι ἀνήψαντο αὐτοῦ ἐσώζοντο, hosoi an hēpsanto autou esōzonto)—universal healing, none disappointed. This demonstrates Christ's unlimited healing power and compassionate availability.

Historical Context

The 'border of his garment' (κρασπέδου τοῦ ἱματίου αὐτοῦ, kraspedou tou himatiou autou) referred to tassels (tzitzit) Jewish men wore per Numbers 15:38-39. These had become focus of faith, though Jesus' person was the source. Ancient marketplaces (agoras) were public spaces where sick could be placed for visibility. The mass healings' public nature created numerous witnesses, making later denial difficult. Early church saw this as fulfillment of Isaiah 53:5: 'by his stripes we are healed.'

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about Christ's nature and work?
2. How should this truth shape our daily discipleship?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ὅπου ἀν εἰσεπορεύετο εἰς κώμας ἥ πόλεις
And whithersoever as he entered into villages or cities
G2532 G3699 G302 G1531 G1519 G2968 G2228 G4172

ἥ ἀγροὺς ἐν ταῖς ἀγοραῖς ἐτίθουν τοὺς ἀσθενοῦντας
or country in the streets they laid the sick
G2228 G68 G1722 G3588 G58 G5087 G3588 G770

καὶ παρεκάλουν αὐτοῦ ἵνα καὶ τοῦ κρασπέδου τοῦ
And besought him that if the border G3588 G2899 G3588
G2532 G3870 G846 G2443 G2579 G3588 G2899 G3588

ἱματίου αὐτοῦ ἥπτοντο καὶ ὅσοι ἀν ἥπτοντο
garment him they might touch And as many as they might touch
G2440 G846 G680 G2532 G3745 G302 G680

αὐτοῦ ἐσώζοντο
him were made whole
G846 G4982

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 9:20 (Parallel theme): And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

Luke 6:19 (Parallel theme): And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

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.

Acts 5:15 (Parallel theme): Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

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