

Matthew 15:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Analysis

Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak (ὥστε τὸν ὄχλον θαυμάσαι βλέποντας κωφοὺς λαλοῦντας)—The consecutive ὥστε ('so that, insomuch that') introduces the result: θαυμάζω (thaumazō, 'to marvel, to wonder'). Seeing κωφοὺς λαλοῦντας ('mute ones speaking') violated natural order—fulfilled Isaiah 35:6. **The maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see** (κυλλοὺς ὑγιεῖς, χωλοὺς περιπατοῦντας καὶ τυφλοὺς βλέποντας)—each healing directly answers Isaiah's messianic prophecies. The catalog proves Jesus is the promised Messiah.

And they glorified the God of Israel (καὶ ἐδόξασαν τὸν θεὸν Ἰσραήλ)—The phrase 'God of Israel' suggests Gentile speakers (this is Decapolis, Mark 7:31). They recognized Israel's covenant God at work. Where Jesus heals, God receives glory—the purpose of all miracles. Their response contrasts with Jewish leaders' hardness (12:24).

Historical Context

Isaiah 35:5-6 prophesied these specific miracles as signs of God's coming salvation. First-century Judaism recognized these as messianic credentials. The Decapolis was a league of ten Greco-Roman cities east of Galilee/Samaria—predominantly Gentile territory. Jesus's ministry there fulfilled prophecies that Gentiles would see God's light (Isaiah 42:6-7).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do Jesus's miracles prove He is the Messiah rather than merely a compassionate healer?
2. When did you last glorify God publicly for His works, as these Gentiles did?

Interlinear Text

ὥστε	τοὺς	ὄχλους	θαυμάσαι	βλέποντας·	κωφοὺς
Insomuch that	G3588	the multitude	wondered	to see	the dumb
G5620		G3793	G2296	G991	G2974
λαλοῦντας	κυλλοὺς	ὑγιεῖς	χωλοὺς	περιπατοῦντας	καὶ
to speak	the maimed	to be whole	the lame	to walk	and
G2980	G2948	G5199	G5560	G4043	G2532
τυφλοὺς	βλέποντας·	καὶ	ἐδόξασαν	τὸν	θεὸν Ἰσραήλ
the blind	to see	and	they glorified	G3588	the God of Israel
G5185	G991	G2532	G1392		G2316 G2474

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 9:8 (Glory): But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

Luke 18:43 (References God): And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

Matthew 9:33 (References Israel): And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Matthew 18:8 (Parallel theme): Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

Luke 7:16 (Glory): And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

Psalms 50:15 (Parallel theme): And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Psalms 50:23 (References God): Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

Mark 2:12 (Glory): And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

Mark 7:37 (Parallel theme): And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

Mark 9:43 (Parallel theme): And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: