

Matthew 21:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

Analysis

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them—David had banned the blind and lame from the temple (2 Sam 5:8 LXX tradition). Jesus, the greater David, welcomes and restores those the old order excluded. The Greek τυφλοὶ καὶ χωλοὶ (typhloi kai chōloi) were ceremonially marginalized, yet found mercy at Messiah's hands.

After cleansing the temple (v.12-13), Jesus fills it with true worship—not commercial exploitation but compassionate healing. Isaiah 35:5-6 prophesied Messiah's kingdom would open blind eyes and make the lame leap. Jesus fulfilled this in the very temple courts, validating His authority challenged in verse 23.

Historical Context

The temple's outer courts had become a commercialized marketplace ('den of thieves'). Moneychangers and sellers exploited pilgrims, particularly the poor and disabled. Jesus's healings demonstrated the kingdom's values: accessibility to God for the outcast, not religious profiteering.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Who are today's 'blind and lame'—those marginalized by religious systems—whom Jesus welcomes but churches exclude?
2. How does Jesus's healing ministry in the cleansed temple challenge prosperity-focused Christianity?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	προσῆλθον	αὐτούς	τυφλοὶ	καὶ	χωλοὶ	ἐν	τῷ
And	came	them	the blind	And	the lame	in	G3588
G2532	G4334	G846	G5185	G2532	G5560	G1722	
ἱερῷ	καὶ	ἐθεράπευσεν	αὐτούς				
the temple	And	he healed	them				
G2411	G2532	G2323	G846				

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