

Matthew 9:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land.

Analysis

The aftermath: 'the fame hereof went abroad into all that land' (εξηλθεν η φημη αυτη εις ολην την γην εκεινην). Despite Jesus' regular commands for silence about miracles (9:30), news spreads uncontrollably. Raising the dead was unprecedented, undeniable evidence of divine authority. 'Fame' (φημη) means report or reputation, spreading Jesus' renown throughout the region. This creates complex consequences: crowds seeking healing but missing Jesus' message, religious opposition intensifying, and growing danger. Jesus doesn't seek fame but can't avoid it when exercising divine power. The spreading report fulfills messianic expectation (Isaiah 35:5-6, 61:1) while complicating Jesus' mission. Fame becomes burden when it attracts wrong motives and prevents teaching ministry.

Historical Context

News traveled quickly in ancient Palestine through personal networks and trade routes. A resurrection miracle would have been extraordinary news, discussed throughout Galilee. Matthew's phrase 'all that land' likely refers to Galilee broadly. Jesus' growing fame both fulfilled messianic prophecy and created problems. Crowds sought physical healing rather than spiritual teaching. Religious leaders felt threatened. Romans watched for potential revolutionary movements. Early Christians faced similar challenge: miracles authenticated the gospel but could distract from the message.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do we respond when God works powerfully but crowds miss the message?
2. What is the relationship between miraculous power and faithful witness to the gospel?
3. How can we testify to God's work without creating unhelpful sensationalism?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐξῆλθεν	ἡ	φήμη	αὕτη	εἰς	ὅλην	τὴν	γῆν
And	went abroad	G3588	the fame	hereof	into	all	G3588	land
G2532	G1831		G5345	G3778	G1519	G3650		G1093

ἐκείνην

that
G1565

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 4:24 (Parallel theme): And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Mark 1:45 (Parallel theme): But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

