

# Romans 15:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in  
Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may  
be accepted of the saints;

## Analysis

**That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea** (ἴνα ῥυσθῶ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀπειθούντων ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, hina rhysthō apo tōn apeithountōn en tē Ioudaia)—Paul's first prayer request: rhysthō (be delivered, rescued) from tōn apeithountōn (those who disobey/disbelieve). Apeithountōn describes unbelieving Jews actively opposing Paul (not merely non-Christians but hostile opponents). Paul faced constant Jewish opposition throughout his ministry (Acts 9:23, 29, 13:45, 50, 14:2, 19, 17:5, 13, 18:12-13, 21:27-31). He feared assassination or mob violence in Jerusalem.

**And that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints** (καὶ ἵνα ἡ διακονία μου ἡ εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ εὐπρόσδεκτος τοῖς ἀγίοις γένηται, kai hina hē diakonia mou hē eis Ierousalēm euprosdektos tois hagiois genētai)—The second request: that his diakonia (service, ministry)—the collection—be euprosdektos (acceptable, well-received) by Jerusalem believers. This reveals Paul's concern: would Jerusalem Christians, given tensions with him (cf. Acts 21:20-21), accept his gift? Rejection would undermine Jewish-Gentile unity he'd worked years to foster. Acceptance would validate Gentile mission and symbolize unity.

## Historical Context

---

Both fears were realized in part. Acts 21:27-36 records his arrest by hostile Jews. Regarding acceptance, Acts 21:17-20a suggests the Jerusalem leaders received him gladly, implying the collection was delivered and accepted, though Luke doesn't explicitly mention it. Ironically, God 'delivered' Paul (v. 31a) through Roman arrest, protecting him from Jewish assassination plots (Acts 23:12-35).

## Related Passages

---

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does Paul's fear that his generous service might be rejected teach about the emotional and relational risks of Christian ministry?
2. What does Paul's request for deliverance from danger reveal about the legitimacy of praying for safety while still obeying costly callings?
3. Have you experienced offering service or generosity that risked rejection, and how did you navigate that vulnerability?

## Interlinear Text

---

ἵνα ἀρνηθῶ ἀπὸ τοῖς ἀπειθούντων ἐν τοῖς  
That I may be delivered from which them that do not believe in which

Ἰουδαία καὶ ἵνα τοῖς διακονίᾳ μου τοῖς εἰς  
Judaea and That which service my which I have for

Ἰερουσαλὴμ εὐπρόσδεκτος γένηται τοῖς ἀγίοις  
Jerusalem accepted may be which of the saints

## Additional Cross-References

---

**2 Thessalonians 3:2** (Faith): And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

**2 Corinthians 8:4** (Holy): Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

**Romans 15:25** (Holy): But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.

**2 Corinthians 9:1** (Holy): For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you:

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)