

John 11:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.

Analysis

Martha returns and calls Mary secretly, using the term 'Master' (Didaskalos/Teacher), showing Jesus' teaching role. The secrecy may reflect desire for private conversation or concern about the hostile Jews present. Martha's words 'he calleth for thee' suggest Jesus had made a request, though not recorded. Her role as messenger shows Martha's servant heart. The sisters' different approaches continue—Martha intercepts, then brings Mary. This demonstrates complementary gifts in Christ's service.

Historical Context

The term 'Master' (Teacher) was respectful address for rabbis. Mary and Martha's use of different titles (Martha: 'Lord,' Mary via Martha: 'Master') may reflect their different relationships or circumstances of address.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Martha's servant role in bringing Mary demonstrate spiritual maturity?
2. What does the private nature of Jesus' call teach about personal relationship with Christ?
3. In what ways do different spiritual gifts complement each other in serving Christ?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ταῦτά εἰποῦσα ἀπῆλθεν καὶ φωνεῖ Μαρίαν τὴν

And so said she went her way And called Mary G3588
G2532 G5023 G2036 G565 G2532 G5455 G3137

ἀδελφὴν αὐτῆς λάθρᾳ εἰποῦσα Ὁ διδάσκαλος πάρεστιν

sister G846 secretly said G3588 The Master G1320 is come G3918
G79 G2977 G2036 G1320 G3918

καὶ φωνεῖ σε

And called thee
G2532 G5455 G4571

Additional Cross-References

Mark 10:49 (Parallel theme): And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

John 11:20 (Parallel theme): Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.

John 13:13 (Parallel theme): Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.