

John 11:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

Analysis

John carefully documents Jesus' love for all three siblings, establishing the personal nature of His relationships. The Greek 'agapao' denotes divine, covenant love, not merely emotional affection. This love makes His delay (v. 6) more mysterious, teaching that divine love operates according to perfect wisdom, not human expectations. Christ's love does not guarantee immediate relief but ultimate good.

Historical Context

The mention of all three family members suggests their prominence in the early church. Martha and Mary represent different temperaments both beloved by Christ, affirming diverse personalities in Christian community.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does knowing Christ's love for this family help us interpret His delay?
2. What does Jesus' love for people of different temperaments teach about Christian community?
3. How can we trust God's love when His timing differs from our desires?

Interlinear Text

ἠγάπα δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὴν Μάρθαν καὶ τὴν ἀδελφὴν
loved **Now** G3588 **Jesus** G2424 **Martha** G3136 **and** G3588 **sister** G79

αὐτῆς καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον
her **and** G3588 **Lazarus** G2976

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