

John 2:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

Analysis

Mary's statement—"They have no wine"—is not merely observation but implicit request. She believes Jesus can address this need, though He has not yet performed public miracles. Her faith anticipates His ability before demonstration. The wine shortage threatened the hosts' honor and the celebration itself. Mary brings a practical problem to Jesus, modeling prayer that presents needs without dictating solutions.

Historical Context

Wine was essential to Jewish celebrations, symbolizing joy and blessing. Psalm 104:15 speaks of wine that 'maketh glad the heart of man.' Running out was a significant social failure. Mary's role suggests she may have had some responsibility for the celebration, perhaps as relative of the families.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does Mary's approach to Jesus teach about bringing our needs to Him in prayer?
2. How does presenting problems without demanding specific solutions model trust in Christ?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ὅτερήσαντος Οἶνον λέγει ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ
And when they wanted wine saith the mother of Jesus
G2532 G5302 G3631 G3004 G3588 G3384 G3588 G2424

πρὸς αὐτόν Οἶνον οὐκ ἔχουσιν
unto him wine no They have
G4314 G846 G3631 G3756 G2192

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 104:15 (Parallel theme): And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

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