

John 4:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.

Analysis

The disciples' invitation 'Master, eat' shows their concern for Jesus' physical needs, unaware that spiritual food (bringing this woman and village to faith) nourishes Him more deeply. This sets up Jesus' teaching about doing the Father's will as true sustenance.

Historical Context

Their return with food from the city creates the scene for Jesus' teaching about spiritual priorities. The timing—just after the woman's departure and before the Samaritans arrive—allows Jesus to instruct His disciples about mission.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does accomplishing God's will provide satisfaction beyond physical needs?
2. What does the disciples' focus on physical food reveal about their spiritual perception at this point?

Interlinear Text

Ἐν δὲ τῷ μεταξὺ ἡρώτων αὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ λέγοντες
In G1161 G3588 the mean prayed him G846 G3588
G1722 G3342 G2065 G846 G3101 G3004
disciples saying

Ἐπαββί φάγε

Master eat
G4461 G5315

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