

John 4:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days.

Analysis

The Samaritans' request that Jesus 'abide with them' and His two-day stay demonstrates that belief leads to desire for Christ's presence. Their invitation contrasts with later Jewish rejection (7:1). Jesus' willingness to stay in Samaria, violating Jewish purity customs, shows the gospel transcending ethnic boundaries.

Historical Context

A two-day stay would have involved eating Samaritan food and lodging in Samaritan homes, all considered defiling by strict Jewish standards. This anticipates the gospel's inclusion of Gentiles and breaking down of dividing walls (Ephesians 2:14).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What barriers to fellowship with different believers does Christ call us to overcome?

2. How does genuine faith express itself in desire for Christ's presence and teaching?

Interlinear Text

ὥς οὖν ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτοῖς· οἱ Σαμαρεῖται,
when **So** **were come** **unto** **him** ^{G3588} **the Samaritans**
G5613 G3767 G2064 G4314 G846 G4541

ἡρώτων αὐτοῖς· ἔμεινεν παρ' αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ
they besought **him** **he abode** **with** **him** **and** **he abode** **there**
G2065 G846 G3306 G3844 G846 G2532 G3306 G1563

δύο ἡμέρας
two **days**
G1417 G2250

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 3:20 (Parallel theme): Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Acts 16:15 (Parallel theme): And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Luke 24:29 (Parallel theme): But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.