

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

ώς	οὖν	ηλθον	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.