

John 4:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

Analysis

The disciples' absence to buy food creates opportunity for Jesus' private conversation with the woman. God's providence arranges circumstances for gospel encounters. Their later surprise (v. 27) at finding Jesus talking with her reveals how radical His ministry was, even to those closest to Him.

Historical Context

Samaritan cities would have had markets where Jews could purchase food, though strict Jews avoided such commerce. The disciples' willingness to buy food in Sychar shows practical necessity overriding some prejudices.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God arrange providential circumstances for evangelistic opportunities?
2. What does the disciples' shock teach us about how Jesus constantly challenged cultural norms?

Interlinear Text

οἱ γὰρ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπεληλύθεισαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν
G3588 (For disciples his were gone away unto G3588 G1063 G3101 G846 G565 G1519 G4172 the city)

ἵνα τροφὰς ἀγοράσωσιν

to meat buy
G2443 G5160 G59

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