

John 6:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

Analysis

'And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.' Jesus takes charge, organizing the crowd. Sitting down indicates expectation—they're preparing to receive. The detail 'much grass' places this in spring (Passover time) and confirms John's eyewitness memory. Five thousand men, plus women and children, could mean 15,000-20,000 total. The scale emphasizes the miracle's magnitude.

Historical Context

The Greek word for 'men' (aner) specifically means adult males. Counting only men follows ancient census practice. The organization into groups (Mark 6:40 specifies fifties and hundreds) facilitated orderly distribution. Jesus' methodical approach shows that miracles don't exclude organization.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus organize the crowd before performing the miracle?
2. What does the specific detail about 'much grass' suggest about John's account?

Interlinear Text

εἶπεν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς Ποιήσατε τοὺς ἀνθρώπους
said **And** G3588 **Jesus** **Make** G3588 **the men**
G2036 G1161 G2424 G4160 G444

ἀνέπεσον ἦν δὲ χόρτος πολὺς ἐν τῷ τόπῳ
sat down **there was** **And** **grass** **much** **in** G3588 **the place**
G377 G2258 G1161 G5528 G4183 G1722 G5117

ἀνέπεσον οὖν οἱ ἄνδρες τὸν ἀριθμὸν ὥσει
sat down **So** G3588 **the men** G3588 **in number** **about**
G377 G3767 G435 G706 G5616

πεντακισχίλιοι
five thousand
G4000