

John 6:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

Analysis

The demand 'What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee?' is remarkable given yesterday's feeding of 5,000. Their question reveals that miracles alone don't produce lasting faith—they want new signs to maintain belief. This illustrates that sign-dependent faith is weak and temporary. True faith rests on Christ's person, not constant miraculous validation.

Historical Context

Their question 'what dost thou work?' echoes their ancestors' testing of God in the wilderness (Psalm 78:18-20). Despite witnessing the feeding miracle, they demand additional proof, showing the hardness of unbelief.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Why doesn't miraculous proof produce lasting faith?
2. How do we sometimes demand constant new evidences rather than resting in Christ's already-demonstrated sufficiency?

Interlinear Text

εἶπον	οὖν	αὐτῷ	τί	οὖν	ποιεῖς	σὺ	σημεῖον	ἵνα
They said	then	unto him	What	then	shewest	thou	sign	that
G2036	G3767	G846	G5101	G3767	G4160	G4771	G4592	G2443
ἴδωμεν	καὶ	πιστεύσωμέν	σοι	τί	ἐργάζῃ			
we may see	and	believe	thee	What	dost thou work			
G1492	G2532	G4100	G4671	G5101	G2038			

Additional Cross-References

John 12:37 (Faith): But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him:

1 Corinthians 1:22 (Parallel theme): For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

John 2:18 (Parallel theme): Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

John 6:36 (Faith): But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

John 10:38 (Faith): But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.