

John 6:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

Analysis

'When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?' Jesus takes initiative, asking Philip a question He already knows the answer to (verse 6). The question tests Philip's faith and understanding. Jesus sees both the crowd and the opportunity—not a problem to solve but a glory to reveal. His concern for the hungry models compassion that leads to provision.

Historical Context

Philip was from Bethsaida, near this location—he should know local resources. Yet the question had no natural answer. Five thousand men plus women and children couldn't be fed with available resources. Jesus' question exposes human limitation to highlight divine sufficiency.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus ask questions when He already knows the answers?
2. How do impossible situations become opportunities for divine glory?

Interlinear Text

ἐπάρας	οὗν	ό	Ἰησοῦς	τοὺς	όφθαλμοὺς	καὶ
lifted up	then	G3588	When Jesus	G3588	his eyes	and
G1869	G3767		G2424		G3788	G2532
θεασάμενος	ὅτι	πολὺς	οἶχλος	ἔρχεται	πρὸς	αὐτὸν
saw	G3754	a great	company	come	unto	G846
G2300		G4183	G3793	G2064	G4314	he saith
G3004						
πρὸς	τὸν	Φίλιππον	Πόθεν	ἀγοράσομεν	ἄρτους	ἵνα
unto	G3588	Philip	Whence	shall we buy	bread	that
G4314		G5376	G4159	G59	G740	G2443
φάγωσιν	οὗτοι					
may eat	these					
G5315	G3778					

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