

Luke 22:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in.

Analysis

And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. Jesus provides remarkably specific instructions. Behold (ἰδοὺ, idou) commands attention to coming revelation. **A man... bearing a pitcher of water** (ἄνθρωπος κεράμιον ὕδατος βαστάζων, anthrōpos keramion hydatos bastazōn) is the identifying sign—unusual because water-carrying was women's work; a man carrying water would stand out.

The command **follow him** (ἀκολουθήσατε αὐτῷ, akolouthēsate autō) uses discipleship language—the same 'follow' Jesus uses for following Him. This demonstrates either:

1. supernatural foreknowledge of events
2. prearranged signals with the homeowner, or
3. both—Jesus sovereignly ordained circumstances He also naturally arranged.

The instructions' precision recalls Old Testament prophetic signs (1 Samuel 10:2-6) and demonstrates Jesus' control even as events spiral toward betrayal. While enemies plot, Jesus orchestrates.

Historical Context

Women typically carried water jars on their heads; men used wineskins. A man carrying a ceramic pitcher (keramion) would be immediately noticeable in Jerusalem's crowded streets. Some scholars suggest this was John Mark's father's home, where the church later met (Acts 12:12), though this is speculative.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' detailed foreknowledge in crisis encourage you to trust His sovereignty in your circumstances?
2. What does the unusual 'sign' of a man carrying water teach about God's ability to guide through specific, unmistakable indicators?
3. How might Jesus be giving you 'signs' to follow that require eyes of faith to recognize?

Interlinear Text

ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ἴδού, εἰσελθόντων ὑμῶν εἰς τὴν
G3588 **And** **he said** **him** **Behold** **are entered** **when ye** **into** G3588
G1161 G2036 G846 G2400 G1525 G5216 G1519

πόλιν συναντήσῃ ὑμῖν ἄνθρωπος κεράμιον ὕδατος
the city **meet** **you** **a man** **a pitcher** **of water**
G4172 G4876 G5213 G444 G2765 G5204

βαστάζων· ἀκολουθήσατε αὐτῷ εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν οὗ
bearing **follow** **him** **into** G3588 **the house** **where**
G941 G190 G846 G1519 G3614 G3757

εἰσπορεύεται
he entereth in
G1531

Additional Cross-References

John 16:4 (Parallel theme): But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.