

Matthew 5:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

Analysis

Give to those who ask, and don't turn away borrowers. This radical generosity reflects God's character and Kingdom economics. It requires trust that God will provide for you as you provide for others. This isn't endorsing foolishness but cultivating a fundamentally generous heart.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern culture emphasized hospitality and lending without interest to fellow Israelites (Exodus 22:25). Jesus extends this generosity even to enemies. Early Christians were renowned for charity toward fellow believers and outsiders alike, attracting converts through radical sharing.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do you balance wisdom about enabling harmful behavior with Jesus's call to radical generosity?

2. What fears about your own financial security prevent you from generous giving?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ὅστις σε ἀγγαρεύσει μίλιον ἔν, ὕπαγε μετ'
And whosoever thee shall compel mile a go with
G2532 G3748 G4571 G29 G3400 G1520 G5217 G3326

αὐτοῦ δύο

him twain
G846 G1417

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