

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

Introduction

The book of John is very original; it is also a gospel but very different from the other three. It is written quite late, at the end of the Century: the Christian communities most probably already knew the other gospels. The author does not want to repeat them, instead he makes a profound theological reflection about Jesus, although without completely abandoning the aspect of "retelling the sayings and deeds of the Master." But the deeds are very few, just enough to give support to doctrine. And the doctrine is not the original one of Jesus, the parables, but long discourses where this doctrine is explained as a theological reflection.

The author presents himself as witness, and many events present in his gospel appear as told by a "personal witness". But most of what is being said is full of symbolisms, many of them taken from the Old Testament. The sacraments of the first Christian communities also appear here, baptism and the eucharist, being Jesus himself the one who makes reference to them.

We feel transported to another world while reading this gospel: the direct, simple style of the Synoptic gospels allowing us to understand them as a chronicle of Jesus' life, here becomes solemn, theological, and symbolic.

A very old tradition identifies the author with the apostle John, son of Zebedee. It is very possible that John's preaching be at the origin of this gospel. But its writing, as we have it today, is without doubt work of his disciples, some of whom were also called John.

Among the many famous fragments of this gospel we single out the splendid Prologue, being the proclamation and announcement of the whole message: Who is Jesus, the incarnate Word; and what is the human drama: to accept Jesus or to take refuge in darkness.

1 ¹In the beginning was the Word.
And the Word was with God
and the Word was God;
²he was in the beginning with God.
³All things were made through him
and without him nothing came to be.
Whatever has come to be, ⁴found life in him,
life which for humans was also light.
⁵Light that shines in the dark:
light that darkness could not overcome.
⁹For the Light was coming into the world,
the true Light that enlightens everyone.
¹⁰He was already in the world
and through him the world was made,
the very world that did not know him.
¹¹He came to his own,
yet his own people did not receive him;
¹²but all who have received him
he empowers to become children of God
for they believe in his Name.
¹³These are born, but without seed
or carnal desire or will of man:
they are born of God.
¹⁴And the Word was made flesh;
he had his tent pitched among us,

and we have seen his Glory,
the Glory of the only Son
coming from the Father:
fullness of truth and loving-kindness.

The first disciples

³⁵On the following day John was standing there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and said:

—There is the Lamb of God.

³⁷On hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. ³⁸He turned and saw them following, and he said to them:

—What are you looking for?

They answered:

—Rabbi (which means *Master*), where are you staying?

³⁹Jesus said:

—Come and see.

So they went and saw where he stayed and spent the rest of that day with him. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

⁴⁰Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard what John had said and followed Jesus. ⁴¹Early the next morning he found his brother Simon and said to him:

—We have found the Messiah (which means *the Christ*).

⁴²And he brought Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said:

—You are Simon, son of John, but you shall be called Cephas (which means *Rock*).

⁴³The next day, Jesus decided to set off for Galilee. He found Philip and said to him:

—Follow me.

⁴⁴Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him:

—We have found the one that Moses wrote about in the Law, and the prophets as well: he is Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth.

⁴⁶Nathanael replied:

—Can anything good come from Nazareth?

Philip said to him:

—Come and see.

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming, he said of him:

—Here comes an Israelite, a true one; there is nothing false in him.

⁴⁸Nathanael asked him:

—How do you know me?

And Jesus said to him:

—Before Philip called you, you were under the fig tree and I saw you.

⁴⁹Nathanael answered:

—Master, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!

⁵⁰But Jesus replied:

—You believe because I said: 'I saw you under the fig tree.' But you will see greater things than that. ⁵¹Truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.

The wedding at Cana

2 ¹Three days later there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus was also invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³When all the wine provided for the celebration had been served and they had run out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to him:

—They have no wine.

⁴Jesus replied:

—Woman, what concern is that to you and me? My hour has not yet come.

⁵However his mother said to the servants:

—Do whatever he tells you.

⁶Nearby were six stone water jars meant for the ritual washing as practiced by the Jews; each jar could hold twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to the servants:

—Fill the jars with water.

And they filled them to the brim. ⁸Then Jesus said:

—Now draw some out and take it to the steward.

So they did. ⁹The steward tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing from where it had come; for only the servants who had drawn the water knew. So, he called the bridegroom ¹⁰to tell him:

—Everyone serves the best wine first and when people have drunk enough, he serves that which is ordinary. Instead you have kept the best wine until the end.

¹¹This miraculous sign was the first, and Jesus performed it at Cana in Galilee. In this way he let his Glory appear and his disciples believed in him.

¹²After this, Jesus went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers and his disciples; and they stayed there for a few days.

Jesus and the Samaritan woman

4 Jesus ⁴had to cross Samaria.

⁵He came to a Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well is there. Tired from his journey, Jesus sat down by the well; it was about noon. ⁷Now a Samaritan woman came to draw water and Jesus said to her:

—Give me a drink.

⁸His disciples had just gone into town to buy some food.

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him:

—How is it that you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan and a woman, for a drink? (For Jews, in fact, have no dealings with Samaritans)

¹⁰Jesus replied:

—If you only knew the Gift of God! If you knew who it is that asks you for a drink, you yourself would have asked me and I would have given you living water.

¹¹The woman answered:

—Sir, you have no bucket and this well is deep; where is your living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well after he drank from it himself, together with his sons and his cattle?

¹³Jesus said to her:

—Those who drink of this water will be thirsty again; ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I shall give will never be thirsty; for the water that I shall give will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

¹⁵The woman said to him:

—Give me this water, that I may never be thirsty and never have to come here to draw water.

²⁵The woman said to him:

—I know that the Messiah, that is the Christ, is coming; when he comes, he will tell us everything.

²⁶And Jesus said:

—I who am talking to you, I am he.

²⁷At this point the disciples returned and were surprised that Jesus was speaking with a woman; however, no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or: ‘Why are you talking with her?’

³¹In the meantime the disciples urged Jesus:

—Master, eat.

³²But he said to them:

—I have food to eat that you don’t know about.

³³And the disciples wondered:

—Has anyone brought him food?

³⁴Jesus said to them:

—My food is to do the will of the One who sent me and to carry out his work. ³⁵You say that in four more months it will be the harvest; now, I say to you, look up and see the fields white and ready for harvesting. ³⁶People who reap the harvest are paid for their work, and the fruit is gathered for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷Indeed the saying holds true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap where you didn’t work or suffer; others have worked and you are now sharing in their labors.

³⁹In that town many Samaritans believed in him when they heard the woman who declared:

—He told me everything I did.

⁴⁰So, when they came to him, they asked him to stay with them and Jesus stayed there two days. ⁴¹After that many more believed because of his own words ⁴²and they said to the woman:

—We no longer believe because of what you told us; for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this is the Savior of the world.

⁴³When the two days were over, Jesus left for Galilee.

The bread of life

6 ²²Next day the people who had stayed on the other side realized that only one boat had been there and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples; rather, the disciples had gone away alone. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, ³⁰They then said:

—Show us miraculous signs, that we may see and believe you. What sign do you perform?

³¹Our ancestors ate manna in the desert; as Scripture says: *They were given bread from heaven to eat.*

³²Jesus then said to them:

—Truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the *bread from heaven*. My Father gives you the true *bread from heaven*. ³³The bread God gives is the One who comes from heaven and gives life to the world.

³⁴And they said to him:

—Give us this bread always.

³⁵Jesus said to them:

—I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall never be hungry, and whoever believes in me shall never be thirsty. ⁵⁰But here you have the *bread which comes from heaven* so that you may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living *bread which has come from heaven*; whoever eats of this bread will live forever. The bread I shall give is my flesh and I will give it for the life of the world.

⁵⁴The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood live with eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day.

⁵⁵My flesh is really food and my blood is drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood, live in me and I in them.

⁶⁶After this many disciples withdrew and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷Jesus asked the Twelve:

—Will you also go away?

⁶⁸Peter answered him:

—Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We now believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.

Forgives the adulteress

8 ¹As for Jesus, he went to the Mount of Olives. ²At daybreak Jesus appeared in the Temple again. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them.

³Then the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees brought in a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They made her stand in front of everyone.

⁴They said:

—Master, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now the Law of Moses orders that such women be stoned to death; but you, what do you say?

⁶They said this to test Jesus, in order to have some charge against him.

Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. ⁷And as they continued to ask him, he straightened up and said to them:

—Let anyone among you who has no sin be the first to throw a stone at her.

⁸And he bent down again, writing on the ground.

⁹As a result of these words, they went away, one by one, starting with the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Then Jesus stood up and said to her:

—Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?

¹¹She replied:

—No one.

And Jesus said:

—Neither do I condemn you; go away and don't sin again.

Healing a blind man

9 ¹As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him:

—Master, was he born blind because of a sin of his, or of his parents?

³Jesus answered:

—Neither was it for his own sin nor for his parents'. He was born blind so that God's power might be shown in him. ⁴While it is day we must do the work of the One who sent me; for the night will come when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

⁶As Jesus said this, he made paste with spittle and clay and rubbed it on the eyes of the blind man. ⁷Then he said:

—Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam. (This name means *sent*)

So he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸His neighbors and all the people who used to see him begging, wondered. They said:

—Isn't this the beggar who used to sit here?

⁹Some said:

—It's the one.

Others said:

—No, but he looks like him.

But the man himself said:

—I am the one.

¹⁰Then they asked:

—How is it that your eyes were opened?

¹¹And he answered:

—The man called Jesus made a mud paste, put it on my eyes and said to me: 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went, and washed, and I could see.

¹²They asked:

—Where is he?

And the man answered:

—I don't know.

¹³The people brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made mud paste and opened his eyes. ¹⁵The Pharisees asked him again:

—How did you recover your sight?

And he said:

—He put paste on my eyes, and I washed, and now I see. ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said:

—This man is not from God, for he works on the Sabbath. But others wondered:

—How can a sinner perform such miraculous signs?

They were divided ¹⁷and they questioned the blind man again:

—What do you think of this man who opened your eyes? And he answered:

—He is a prophet.

¹⁸After all this, the Jews refused to believe that the man had been blind and had recovered his sight; so they called his parents ¹⁹and asked them:

—Is this your son? You say that he was born blind, how is it that he now sees?

²⁰The parents answered:

—He really is our son and he was born blind; ²¹but how it is that he now sees, we don't know, neither do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is old enough. Let him speak for himself.

²²The parents said this because they feared the Jews who had already agreed that whoever confessed Jesus to be the Christ was to be expelled. ²³Because of this his parents said: 'He is old enough, ask him.'

²⁴So a second time the Pharisees called the man who had been blind, and they said to him:

—Tell us the truth; we know that this man is a sinner. ²⁵He replied:

—I don't know whether he is a sinner or not; I only know that I was blind and now I see.

²⁶They said to him:

—What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?

²⁷He replied:

—I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?

²⁸Then they started to insult him.

—Become his disciple yourself! We are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man we don't know where he comes from.

³⁰The man replied:

—It is amazing that you don't know where the man comes from, and yet he opened my eyes! ³¹We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but if anyone honors God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never, since the world began, has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person who was born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.

³⁴They answered him:

—You were born a sinner and now you teach us!

And they expelled him.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had expelled him. He found him and said:

—Do you believe in the Son of Man?

³⁶He answered:

—Who is he, that I may believe in him?

³⁷Jesus said:

—You have seen him and he is speaking to you.

³⁸He said:

—Lord, I believe.

And he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said:

—I came into this world to carry out a judgment: Those who do not see shall see, and those who see shall become blind.

⁴⁰Some Pharisees stood by and asked him:

—So we are blind?

⁴¹And Jesus answered:

—If you were blind, you would not be guilty. Now you say: 'We see'; this is the proof of your sin.

The good shepherd

10 ¹¹—I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. ¹²Not so the hired hand or any other person who is not the shepherd and to whom the sheep do not belong. They abandon the sheep as soon as they see the wolf coming; then the wolf snatches

and scatters the sheep. ¹³This is because the hired hand works for pay and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴—I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.

Resurrects Lazarus

11 ¹There was a sick man named Lazarus who was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

¹⁷When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him while Mary remained sitting in the house. ²¹And she said to Jesus:

—If you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.

²³Jesus said:

—Your brother will rise again.

²⁴Martha replied:

—I know that he will rise in the resurrection, at the last day.

²⁵But Jesus said to her:

—I am the resurrection; whoever believes in me, though he die, shall live. ²⁶Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?

²⁷Martha then answered:

—Yes, *Lord*, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world.

²⁸After that Martha went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying:

—The Master is here and is calling for you.

²⁹As soon as Mary heard this, she rose and went to him. ³⁰Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³²As for Mary, when she came to the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said:

—*Lord*, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

³³When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews also who had come with her, he was moved in the depths of his spirit and troubled. ³⁴Then he asked:

—Where have you laid him?

They answered:

—*Lord*, come and see.

³⁹Jesus ordered:

—Take the stone away.

Martha said to him:

—*Lord*, by now he will smell, for this is the fourth day.

⁴⁰Jesus replied:

—Have I not told you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?

⁴¹So they removed the stone.

Jesus lifted up his eyes and ⁴³cried out in a loud voice:

—Lazarus, come out!

⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips and his face wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them:

—Untie him and let him go.

⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees called the Sanhedrin Council. They said:

—What are we to do? For this man keeps on giving miraculous signs.

⁵⁴Because of this, Jesus no longer moved about freely among the Jews. He withdrew instead to the country near the wilderness and stayed with his disciples in a town called Ephraim.

Washes the disciple's feet

13 ¹It was before the feast of the Passover. Jesus realized that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father, and as he had loved those who were his own in the world, he would love them with perfect love.

²They were at supper and the devil had already put into the mind of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray. ³Jesus knew that the Father had entrusted all things to him, and as he had come from God, he was going to God. ⁴So he got up from table, removed his garment and taking a towel, wrapped it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing.

⁶When he came to Simon Peter, Simon said to him:

—Why, *Lord*, you want to wash my feet!

⁷Jesus said:

—What I am doing you cannot understand now, but afterwards you will understand it.

⁸Peter replied:

—You shall never wash my feet.

Jesus answered him:

—If I do not wash you, you can have no part with me. ⁹Then Simon Peter said:

—*Lord*, wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head!

¹⁰Jesus replied:

—Whoever has taken a bath does not need to wash (except the feet), for he is clean all over. You are clean, though not all of you.

¹¹Jesus knew who was to betray him; because of this he said, "Not all of you are clean. ¹²When Jesus had finished washing their feet, he put on his garment again, went back to the table and said to them:

—Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Master and *Lord*, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I, then, your *Lord* and Master, have washed your feet, you also must wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have just given you an example that as I have done, you also may do. ¹⁶Truly, I say to you, the servant is not greater than his master, nor is the messenger greater than he who sent him.

¹⁷Understand this, and blessed are you if you put it into practice.

Announces the treason

²¹After saying this, Jesus was distressed in spirit and said plainly:

—Truly, one of you will betray me.

²²The disciples then looked at one another, wondering who he meant. ²³One of the disciples, the one Jesus loved, was reclining near Jesus; ²⁴so Simon Peter signaled him to ask Jesus whom he meant. ²⁵And the disciple who was reclining near Jesus asked him:

—*Lord*, who is it?

²⁶Jesus answered:

—I shall dip a piece of bread in the dish, and he to whom I give it, is the one.

So Jesus dipped the bread and gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. ²⁷And as Judas took the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus then said to him:

—What you are going to do, do quickly.

³¹When Judas had gone out, Jesus said:

—Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. ³⁴Now I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also must love one another.

³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Promise of the Spirit

14 ²⁵—I told you all this while I was still with you. ²⁶From now on the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I have told you.

²⁷Peace be with you; I give you my peace. Not as the world gives peace do I give it to you. Do not be troubled; do not be afraid.

15 ¹²This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. ¹³There is no greater love than this, to give one's life for one's friends; ¹⁴and you are my friends if you do what I command you.

¹⁵I shall not call you servants any more, because servants do not know what their master is about. Instead I have called you friends, since I have made known to you everything I learned from my Father.

¹⁶You did not choose me; it was I who chose you and sent you to go and *bear fruit*, fruit that will last. And everything you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.

¹⁷This is my command, that you love one another.

The work of the Spirit

16 ¹³—When he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into the whole truth.

Condemned to death

19 ¹Pilate had Jesus taken away and scourged. ²The soldiers also twisted thorns into a crown and put it on his head. They threw a cloak of royal purple around his shoulders ³and began coming up to him and saluting him:

—Hail, king of the Jews.

And they struck him on the face.

Crucifixion

²⁵Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister Mary, who was the wife of Cleophas, and Mary of Magdala. ²⁶When Jesus saw the Mother, and the disciple whom he loved, he said to the Mother:

—Woman, this is your son.

²⁷Then he said to the disciple:

—There is your mother.

And from that moment the disciple took her to his own home.

Death of Jesus

²⁸With that Jesus knew all was now finished and he said:

—*I am thirsty*

²⁹A jar full of bitter wine stood there; so, putting a sponge soaked in the wine on a twig of hyssop, they raised it to his lips. ³⁰Jesus took the wine and said:

—It is accomplished.

Then he bowed his head and gave up the spirit.

³¹As it was Preparation Day, the Jews did not want the bodies to remain on the cross during the Sabbath, for this Sabbath was a very solemn day. They asked Pilate to have the legs of the condemned men broken, so they might take away the bodies. ³²The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who had been crucified with Jesus. ³³When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead; so they did not break his legs. ³⁴One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a lance and immediately there came out blood and water.

³⁵The one who has seen here gives his witness so that you may believe: his witness is true and He knows that he speaks the truth. ³⁶All this happened to fulfill the words of Scripture, *Not one of his bones shall be broken*. ³⁷Another text says: *They shall look on him whom they have pierced*.

Appearance to Mary Magdalene

20 ¹¹Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she bent down to look inside; ¹²she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head, and the other at the feet. ¹³They said:

—Woman, why are you weeping?

She answered:

—Because they have taken my *Lord* and I don't know where they have put him.

¹⁴As she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not recognize him. ¹⁵Jesus said to her:

—Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for? She thought it was the gardener and answered him:

—*Lord*, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him.

¹⁶Jesus said to her:

—Mary!

She turned and said to him:

—Rabboni (which means, *Master*).

¹⁷Jesus said to her:

—Do not cling to me; you see I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them: I am ascending to my Father, who is your Father, to my God, who is your God.

¹⁸So Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples:

—I have seen the *Lord*, and this is what he said to me.

Appearance to the disciples

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day after the Sabbath, the doors were locked where the disciples were, because of their fear of the Jews, but Jesus came and stood in their midst. He said to them:

—Peace be with you.

²⁰Then he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples kept looking at the *Lord* and were full of joy.

²¹Again Jesus said to them:

—Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.

²²After saying this he breathed on them and said to them:

—Receive the Holy Spirit; ²³for those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.

²⁴Thomas, the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵The other disciples told him:

—We have seen the *Lord*.

But he replied:

—Until I have seen in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.

²⁶Eight days later, the disciples were inside again and Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors Jesus came and stood in their midst and said:

—Peace be with you.

²⁷Then he said to Thomas:

—Put your finger here and see my hands; stretch out your hand and put it into my side. Resist no longer and be a believer.

²⁸Thomas then said:

—You are my *Lord* and my God.

²⁹Jesus replied:

—You believe because you see me, don't you? Happy are those who have not seen and believe.

³⁰There were many other signs that Jesus gave in the presence of his disciples, but they are not recorded in this book. ³¹These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; believe and you will have life through his Name.

Appearance by the lake

21 ¹After this Jesus revealed himself to the disciples by the Lake of Tiberias. He appeared to them in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas who was called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two other disciples were together; ³and Simon Peter said to them:

—I'm going fishing.

They replied:

—We will come with you.

And they went out and got into the boat, but they caught nothing that night. ⁴When day had already broken, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus called them:

—Children, have you anything to eat?

They answered:

—Nothing.

⁶Then he said to them:

—Throw the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.

When they had lowered the net, they were not able to pull it in because of the great number of fish.

⁷Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter:

—It's the Lord!

At these words, 'It's the Lord,' Simon Peter put on his clothes, for he was stripped for work, and jumped into the water. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat dragging the net full of fish; they were not far from land, about a hundred meters.

⁹When they landed, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it, and some bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them:

—Bring some of the fish you've just caught.

¹¹So Simon Peter climbed into the boat and pulled the net to shore. It was full of big fish—one hundred and fifty-three—but, in spite of this, the net was not torn.

¹²Jesus said to them:

—Come and have breakfast.

And not one of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' for they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and he did the same with the fish.

¹⁴This was the third time that Jesus revealed himself to his disciples after rising from the dead.

¹⁵After they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter:

—Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?

He answered:

—Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.

And Jesus said:

—Feed my lambs.

¹⁶A second time Jesus said to him:

—Simon, son of John, do you love me?

And Peter answered:

—Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.

Jesus said to him:

—Look after my sheep.

¹⁷And a third time he said to him:

—Simon, son of John, do you love me?

Peter was saddened because Jesus asked him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said:

—Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.

Jesus then said:

—Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, when you were young you put on your belt and walked where you liked. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will put a belt around you and lead you where you do not wish to go.

¹⁹Jesus said this to make known the kind of death by which Peter was to glorify God. And he added:

—Follow me.

²⁰Peter looked back and saw that the disciple Jesus loved was following as well, the one who had reclined close to Jesus at the supper and had asked him, 'Lord, who is to betray you?' ²¹On seeing him Peter asked Jesus:

—Lord, what about him?

²²Jesus answered:

—If I want him to remain until I come, does that concern you? Follow me.

²³Because of this the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus had not said to Peter, ‘He will not die,’ but ‘suppose I want him to remain until I come.’

²⁴It is this disciple who testifies about the things he has recorded here and we know that his testimony is true.

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