

The Gospel according to John

The Being (LXX for Yahweh)
Exodus 3:14

Jesus Christ



‘I will betroth you
to myself
in tenderness’
(Hosea 2:20)

Saint
John

ACT III : THE SON OF GOD GIVES HIMSELF
FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD
JOHN 5:1 - 6:71

Scene 1 : At the pool of Beth-zatha, Jesus gives life
to a 'dead' man on the Sabbath (5:1-15)

Scene 2: Jesus, the Son of God (5:16-47)

5:16-18

The Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, and I also am working." For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

5:19-20

Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing.

5:30

I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 7:37-39

On the last day of the festival, the great day [the day of Rejoicing in the Torah], while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart [koilia, ‘inner being’] shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.



8:24

You will die in your sins unless you believe that **I am**.

[ego eimi]

8:28-29

Jesus said, 'When you have lifted up the Son of Man,
then you will realise that **I am**, and that I do nothing on my own,
but I speak these things as the Father instructed me.
And the one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone,
for I always do what is pleasing to him.'

8:31-32, 36

'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples;
and you will know the truth,
and the truth will make you free ...
If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.'

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.
I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice.
So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

God had promised Abraham: ‘I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations’(Genesis 17:5; see Romans 4:17).

‘Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered’(Isaiah 56:8).

Scene 4 : During the Festival of Dedication (10:22-42)

10:30-31,33

Jesus said: 'The Father and I are one.' The Jews took up stones again to stone him... 'We are going to stone you because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.'

10:34-36, 38

Jesus answered, 'Is it not written in your law, "I said, you are gods [Psalm 82]"? If those to whom the word of God came were called 'gods' – and the scripture cannot be annulled – can you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, 'I am God's Son'? ... The Father is in me and I am in the Father.

ACT VI : THE FINAL PASSOVER DRAWS NEAR

JOHN 11:1 - 12:50

Scene 2 : Jesus restores Lazarus to life (11:17-44)

II:43-44

Jesus cried in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

The dead man came out,
his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth,
and his face wrapped in a cloth.

Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Scene 7 : Jesus draws everyone to himself to share with them the life he shares with his Father (12:20-36)



12:24

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

PART II : JESUS' RETURN TO THE FATHER

JOHN 13:1 - 20:31

ACT I : THE LAST SUPPER JOHN 13:1 - 17:21

Scene 1 : Jesus washes the feet of his disciples (13:1-20)

13:1

Before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

13:14-15

If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

‘Do this in memory of me’(1Corinthians 11:24-25 & Luke 22:19)

Scene 3 : Jesus' Farewell Speech (13:33 - 14:31)

- Modelled on Moses' Testament in Deuteronomy

We will find that the speech moves in and out of various time-frames. As we listen, there are times when we hear Jesus speaking at the supper.

At other times we hear him addressing us from the cross

or from the communion with his Father that he enjoys in his post-resurrectional glory. As John writes he is very conscious of the risen and glorified Jesus present in his own community and constantly reminding them of his love.

13:34-35

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you
a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you
follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances.

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God,
believe also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If it were not so, would I have told you that

I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come again and will take you to myself,

so that where I am, there you may be also.

14:4-6

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?'

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

14:7-9

If you know me, you will know my Father also.

From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father,
and we will be satisfied.'

Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time,
Philip, and you still do not know me?

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

'It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who
has made him known'(John 1:18).

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate [Paraclete],
to be with you forever.

This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because
it neither sees him nor knows him.

You know him, because he abides with you,
and he will be in you.

I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you ...

If you love me you will keep my word,
and my Father will love you, and we will come to you
and make our home in you.

19:25-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were

his mother [compare Cana]

and his mother's sister [Salome (Mark 15:40), Zebedee's wife (Matthew 27:56)] ?

Mary the wife of Clopas [Joseph's brother; mother of James & Joseph (Mat 13:55)] ?

and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

‘Woman, here is your son.’

Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own.

19:31-34



When they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs.

Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear,
and at once blood and water came out.

Moses striking the Rock
(Numbers 20:11)

19:35-37

(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.)

These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled,
‘None of his bones shall be broken.’

(Psalm 34:20 & Exodus 12:46 - the Passover Lamb)

And again another passage of scripture says,
‘They will look on the one whom they have pierced.’

(Zechariah 12:10 - 13:1)

Scene 2. The Risen Jesus reveals himself to Mary Magdalene (20:11-18)

20:11-15

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb.



20:16-18

Jesus said to her, 'Mary!'

She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!'

Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me,
as though I have not yet ascended to the Father.

But go to my brothers and say to them,
"I am ascending to my Father and your Father,
to my God and your God."

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,
'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that
he had said these things to her.

20:26-29

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love (agapan) me more than these?’

(see 13:37; but 13:38; 18:17, 25-27)

He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love (philein) you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’

A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love (agapan) me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love (philein) you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’

He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love (philein) me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love (philein) me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love (philein) you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. (see Luke 22:32 & Matthew 16:18)