

## John and the Cross — notes #8

**John 19** <sup>25</sup> Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother (ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ), and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved (τὸν μαθητὴν . . . ὃν ἠγάπα) standing by, he said to his mother, "Woman (γύναι), behold your son!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour (ᾠρας) the disciple took her to his own (καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ᾠρας ἔλαβεν ὁ μαθητὴς αὐτὴν εἰς τὰ ἴδια).

**John 2** <sup>1</sup> On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus (ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ) was there. <sup>2</sup> Now both Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."<sup>4</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman (γύναι), what does your concern have to do with me? My hour (ᾠρα) has not yet come."

**John 17** <sup>1</sup> Father, the hour (ᾠρα) has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may also glorify you.

**John 16** <sup>21</sup> When a woman (γυνή) is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour (ᾠρα) has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world

**Galatians 2** <sup>20</sup> "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God (ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῆ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ), who loved me (τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με) and handed himself over for me (παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ)."

*The Travels of Egeria 37* — The entire time from the sixth to the ninth hour is occupied by public readings. They all concern the things that Jesus suffered; first they have the psalms on this theme, then the Apostolic Epistles and Acts which deal with it, and finally the passages from the Gospels. In this way they read the prophecies about what the Lord was to suffer, and then the Gospels about what He did suffer. Thus do they continue the readings and hymns from the sixth to the ninth hour, showing to all the people by the witness of the Gospels and the writings of the Apostles that the Lord actually suffered everything the prophets had foretold. They teach the people, then, for these three hours, that nothing which took place had not been foretold, and all that was foretold was completely fulfilled. Dispersed among these readings are prayers, all fitting to the day. It is impressive to see the way all the people are moved by these readings, and how they mourn. You could hardly believe how every single one of them weeps during those three hours, old and young together, because of the way the Lord suffered for us.

**Lamentations, Matins, Holy Saturday** — 'Woe is me, O Light of the world! Woe is me, mine Illumination! O most beloved Jesus . . . Thy pure mother, O Savior, in thy death lamented with thee mourning . . . The virgin mother, the bride of God, cried out: 'Who will give me the water for tears, that I may weep for my sweet Jesus.'"