

Friday 25th in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Lk 9,18-22): (...) Jesus (...) asked them, «What do people say about me?». And they answered, «Some say that you are John the Baptist; others say that you are Elijah, and still others that you are one of the former prophets risen from the dead». Again Jesus asked them, «Who then do you say I am?». Peter answered, «The Messiah of God» (...). And he added, «The Son of Man must suffer many things. He will be rejected by the elders and chief priests and teachers of the Law, and put to death. Then after three days he will be raised to life».

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, crucified and risen to save us

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, as in Jesus' time, "people" have different views regarding Jesus Christ. In fact, there are two ways of "seeing" and "knowing" Jesus: one —that of the crowd—, more superficial, approaching Him from the outside; the other —that of the disciples— more penetrating and authentic. With the double question: "Who do the people say that I am?", and "but who do you say that I am?" Jesus invites us to be aware of this difference in perspective.

One has to go in depth, to recognize the singularity of the person of Jesus of Nazareth, His newness. In fact, the titles attributed to Him by St. Peter —"You are the Christ", "the Christ of God", "the Son of the living God"— can be understood only authentically in the light of the mystery of his death and resurrection. The reverse is also true: the event of the Cross reveals its full sense only if "this man", who suffered and who died on the Cross, was "truly the Son of God".

—O Jesus, I confess that You are the Son of God, that you have died to save me and you have risen to take me with you.