

The Witness of the Beloved Disciple

8 June 2014

John 20:30-31

I. John the son of Zebedee

- A. Brother of James and son of Zebedee (Matthew 4:21; Mark 1:19-20; Luke 5:8-11; Matthew 10:1-4; Mark 3:14-19; Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45; 3:17 cf. Luke 9:51-56)
- B. Witness to Jesus' works and words (Mark 5; 9:38; 13:3; Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2; Luke 9:28ff.)
- C. Witness to Jesus' passion (Luke 22:7-8; Matthew 26:37; 27:56)
- D. Apostle of the risen Christ (Matthew 28:16-17; Luke 24:33-43; Acts 1:13; 3; 4; 8:13ff.; Galatians 2:9; Acts 12:1-2; 1-3 John; Revelation 1:1, 4)

II. The witness of "the disciple Jesus loved"

- A. The scope of his witness (Acts 1:21-22; John 1:35-37; 21:20-24)
- B. What makes John such a good witness? (from Richard Bauckham)
 - 1. very close relationship with Jesus
 - 2. present at key points (John 1:35; 18:15-16; 19:31-37; 20:3-10)
 - 3. details of observation (John 1:39; 13:26; 18:18; 19:33-35; 20:6-7; 21:9; 21:11)
 - 4. perceptive witness - not just seeing but understanding (John 13:25-30; 20:8-9)

III. Witness for what?

- A. "I saw the whole thing!"
- B. Witness for the vindication of God in the world
- C. "Written that *you* may believe" (see 21:25)