

A Reading from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Love Your Enemies":

To our most bitter opponents we say:
We shall match your capacity to inflict suffering by our capacity to endure suffering.
We shall meet your physical force with soul force.
Do to us what you will, and we shall continue to love you.
We cannot in all good conscience obey unjust laws, because non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good.
Throw us in jail, and we will still love you.
Bomb our homes and threaten our children and we shall still love you.
Send your hooded perpetrators of violence into our community at the midnight hour and beat us and leave us half dead, and we shall still love you.
But be assured that we will wear you down by our capacity to suffer. One day we shall win freedom, but not only for ourselves.
We shall so appeal to your heart and conscience that we shall win you in the process, and our victory will be a double victory.

Here ends the reading.

John 1:29-42

The next day, catching sight of Jesus approaching, John exclaimed, "Look, there's God's sacrificial lamb, who takes away the world's sin!

This is the one I was talking about when I said,

"The one who comes after me ranks ahead of me, for this ONE existed before I did."

I didn't recognize him, but it was so that he would be revealed to Israel that I came baptizing with water."

John also gave this testimony:

"I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and she came to rest on him.

I didn't recognize him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water told me, "When you see the Spirit descend and rest on someone, that is the One who will baptize with the Holy Spirit."

Now I have seen for myself and have testified that this is the Only Begotten of God."

The next day, John was by the Jordan again with two of his disciples.

Seeing Jesus walk by, John said, "Look! There's the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard what John said and followed Jesus.

When Jesus turned around and noticed them following, he asked them, "What are you looking for?"

They replied, "Rabbi,"—which means "Teacher"—where are you staying?"

"Come and see," Jesus answered.

So they went to see where he was staying, and they spent the rest of the day with him.

It was about four in the afternoon.

One of the two who had followed Jesus after hearing John was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

The first thing Andrew did was to find Simon Peter and say, "We've found the Messiah!"—which means "the Anointed One.

Andrew brought Simon to Jesus, who looked hard at him and said, “You are Simon ben-Jonah; I will call you ‘Rock’—that is “Peter”.