

Sommer net ...



## *The Story of Christ Emmaus\**

*By Giovanni Papini*

They had failed to recognize Him either by His outward aspect or by His words, although they so closely resembled words He had spoken before; nor had they recognized Him by the light that shone from His countenance as He talked, nor by the sound of His voice. But it had sufficed for Him to take the bread in His hands, as a father may do when about to divide the loaf among his sons after a hard day's work or a long journey, for Him to perform that loving office they had so often witnessed, and they recognized His hands. His hands so often raised in blessing, His hands that had been pierced; and the scales fell from their eyes and they knew that they were face to face with One who was risen from the dead. In His life of the flesh, when He had been their friend, they had failed to understand Him; when He had taught them as they walked together along the dusty highway, they had not recognized Him; it was only when He performed this loving office of service to them who were His servants, and offered them the bread that is life and the hope of life, that they saw Him for the first time.

And so, fasting and weary as they were, they immediately set out to return to Jerusalem, where they arrived when darkness had already fallen.

As they walked they marvelled at themselves, and were ashamed, saying:-  
"Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures? Why did we not recognize Him then?"

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Verily they had not believed in vain, and they were no longer alone. The Crucifixion had been the darkening of a single day that the sun might shine more brightly on all days yet to come.

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*\*Source*

Giovanni Papini: *The Story of Christ*, translated by Mary Prichard Agnetti;

Hodder and Stoughton Limited London, Thirteenth edition Nov 1923; p 422, 423, 427