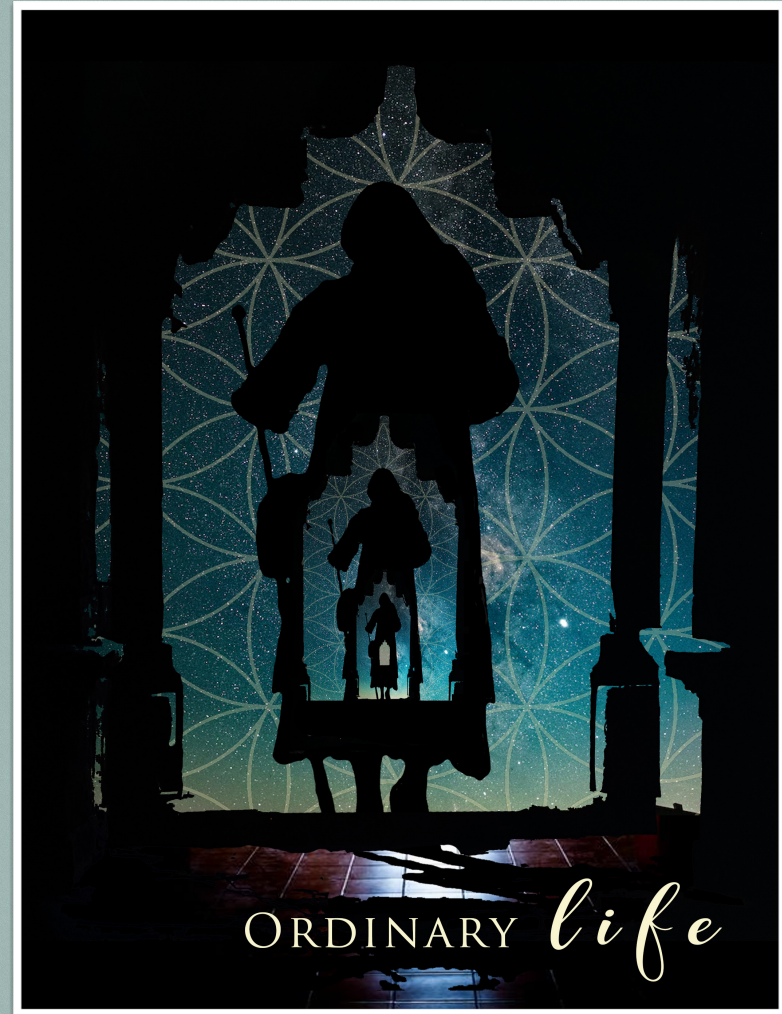


*Living in the  
Sacred Stream*



Ordinary LIFE

**"Jesus tried to change people by loving & healing them. His harshest words of judgment were reserved for those who perpetuated systems of inequality & oppression & who, through religion itself, thought they were sinless & untouchable."**

**~ Richard Rohr**  
**@thehappygivers**

*No matter who you are, no  
matter where you are in  
your spiritual journey, you  
are **celebrated** here.*

# SILENCE

*Be Present*

*Be Open*

*Be Awake*

*Our ultimate goal is to turn  
information into transformation.  
Faith and trust are involved in  
this process.  
We labor under the illusion that  
we can figure this stuff out.*

*“Is it possible you could live your whole life without ever having met the person who lived your life?” (Thomas Merton)*

*Yes!*

*One of the things we are about is being present to who we currently are with an awareness of the transformative process we are in.*

*We are not who we were. We are not who we will be.*

*We are in the process of becoming centers of freedom, honesty and love.*

*We suffer from depth deprivation.  
These times are intended to help us break  
through whatever habits of mind and heart  
we have that keep us from a deep experience  
with the Sacred and with life itself.  
Be open to the possibility that being here can  
change your life.  
We seek to penetrate the illusions that keep  
us from touching and being touched by  
Reality.*

*Grace be in our heads, and in our thinking.  
Grace be in our eyes, and in our seeing.  
Grace be in our ears, and in our hearing.  
Grace be in our mouths, and in our speaking.  
Grace be in our hearts, and in our  
understanding.  
Grace be in our end, and at our departing.*



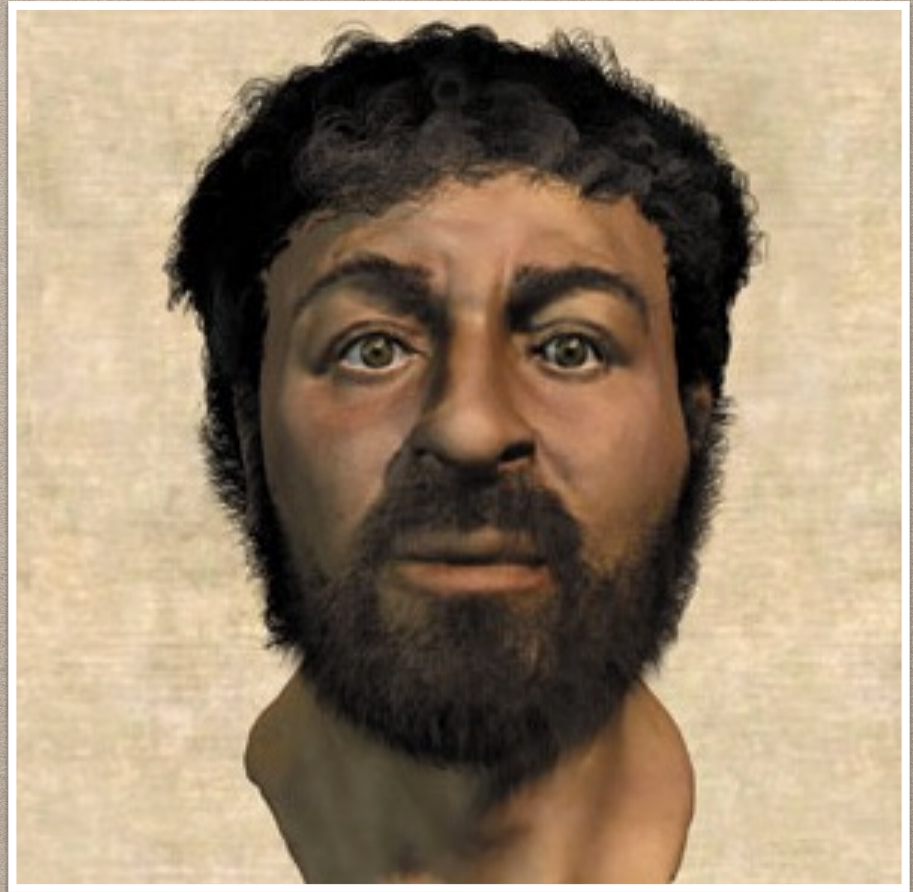
In mystical prophetic spiritual teachings  
there is nothing to hold on to.

**Hold On to That!**

In mystical prophetic religious teachings  
there is nothing to hold on to.



*Buddha*  
536 - 482 BCE



*Jesus*  
4 BCE - 30 AD

*Buddha achieved enlightenment  
and then taught that others could  
do the same.*

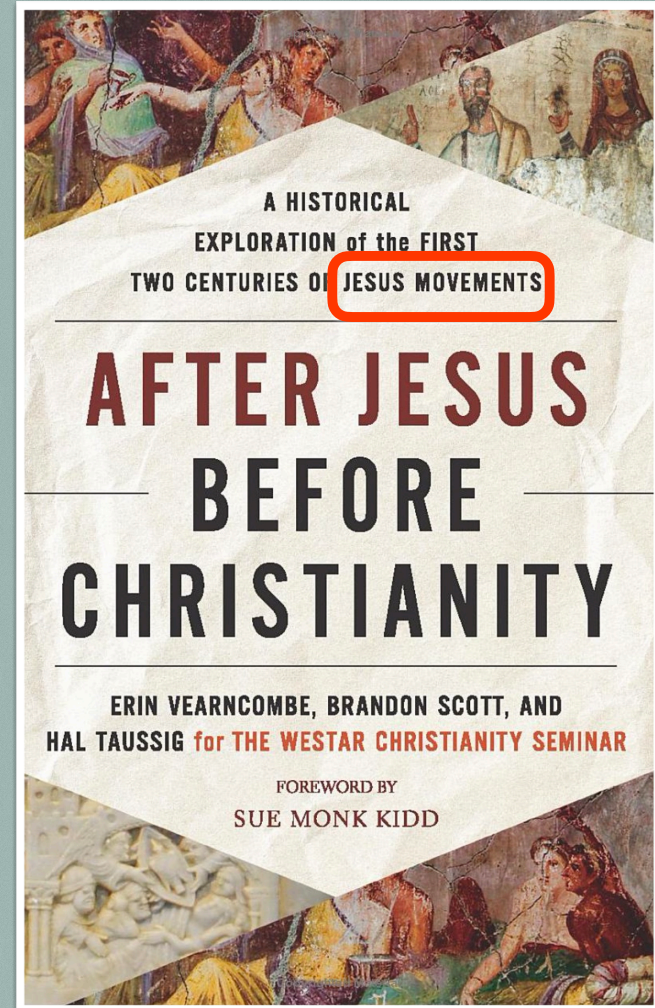
*Jesus achieved and experienced  
that he was a child of God and then  
taught so was everyone else.*

# definitions of spiritual practice

*The central truth of and for spiritual practice is “paying attention” and developing the resources to be present to “what is.” Central to this spiritual practice is growing in the capacity to be non-judgmental.*

*That which we habitually enter into with our whole heart in which we assume the inner stance that offers the least resistance to our being over taken by the experience of Sacred Mystery which we are powerless by our own efforts to obtain.*

*We are learning, thanks to advances in all the disciplines that affect our learning, about the first three hundred years of the Christian movement - before there was “a church.”*



The Council of Nicea was not held until  
325.

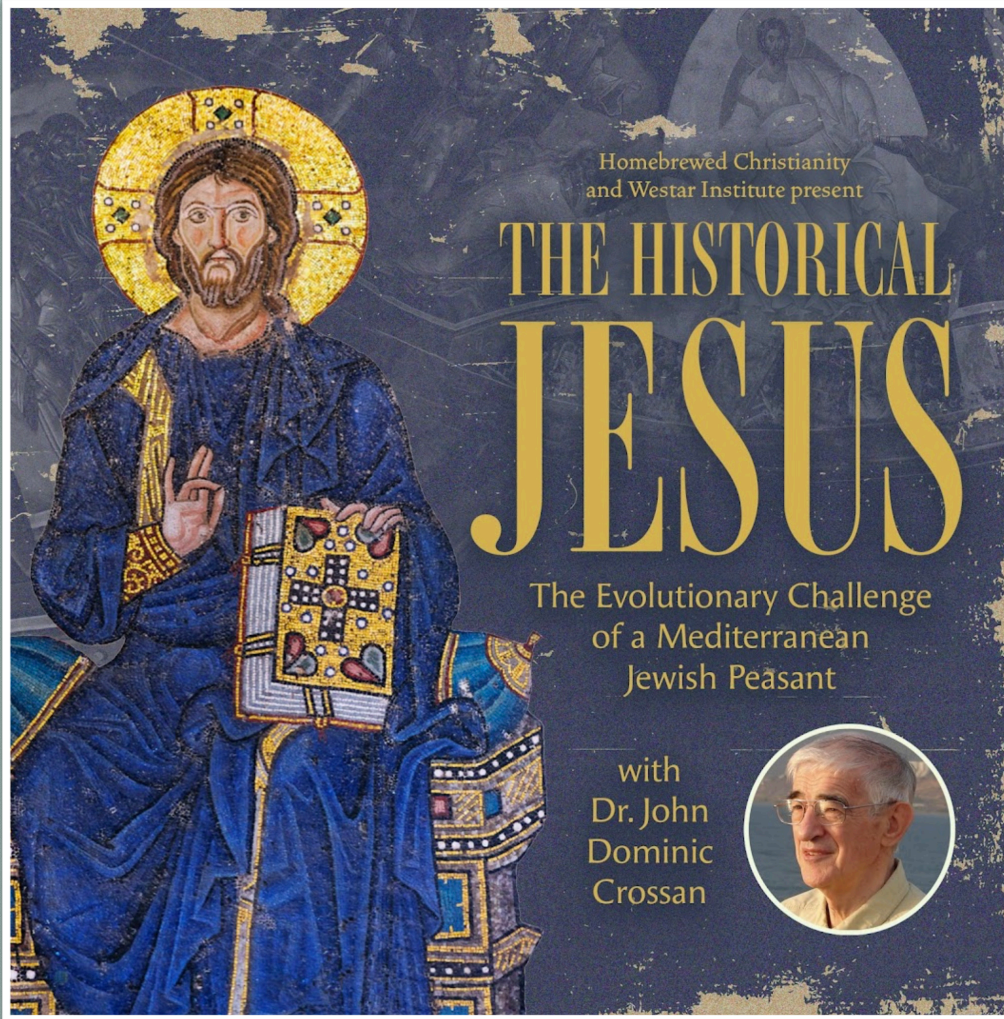
There was no agreement about which  
writings would be authoritative for the  
newly formed church until around 397.

That's at least seventy years later!

# Living In the Sacred Stream

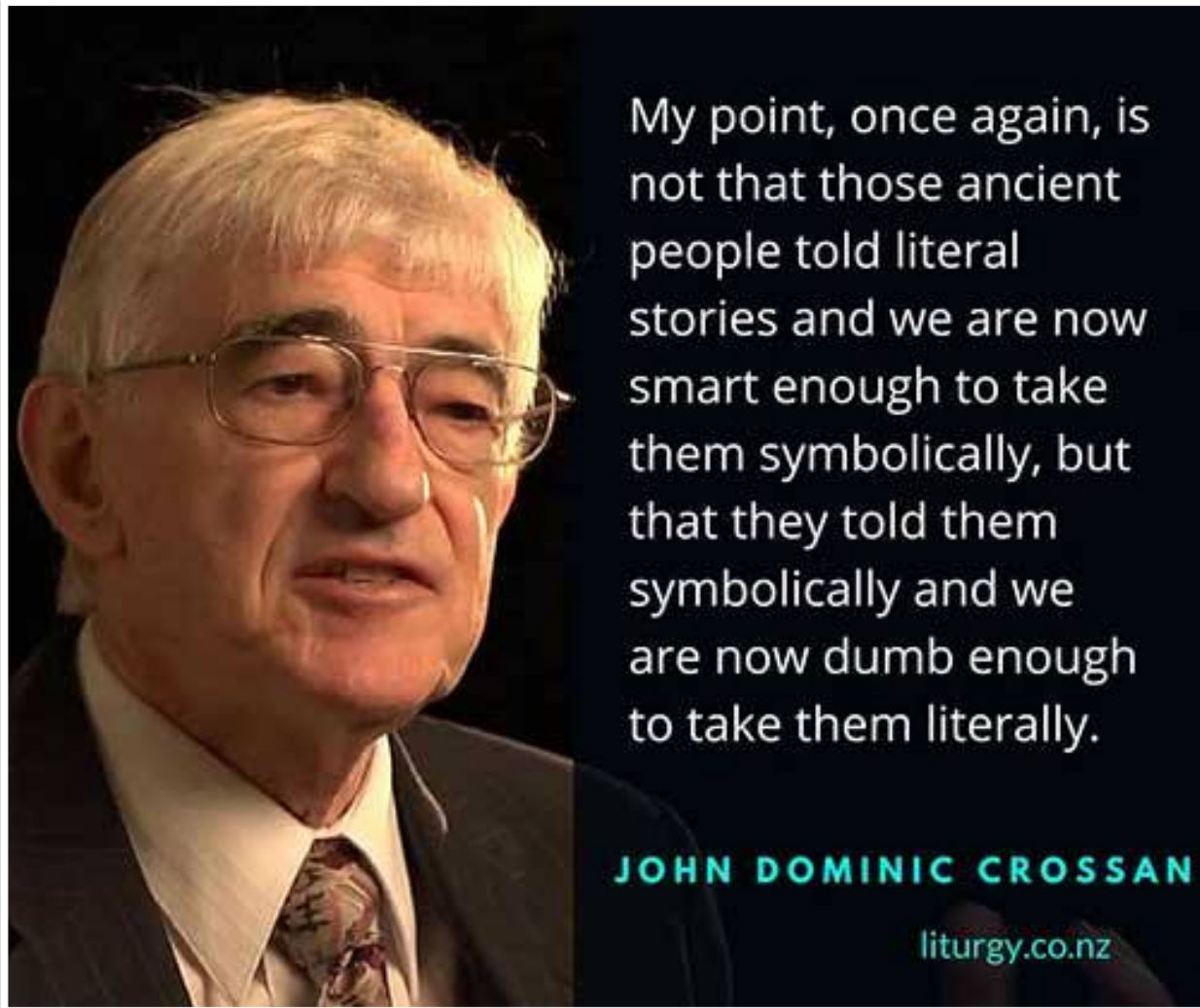


*Ordinary* LIFE



Ordinary LIFE





My point, once again, is not that those ancient people told literal stories and we are now smart enough to take them symbolically, but that they told them symbolically and we are now dumb enough to take them literally.

**JOHN DOMINIC CROSSAN**

[liturgy.co.nz](http://liturgy.co.nz)

# The Perennial Tradition

*if something is true it is always true - past, present, and  
future*

*Something in us is greater than we know. We are in  
something Greater than we know.*

*We have this wisdom within us. Yet, we have to receive  
it.*

“I have seen the ancient way, the old road that was taken by all the all-awakened and that is my path too.”

- the Buddha

“It isn’t the way because Jesus took it. Jesus took it because it is the way.”

- Sarah Grant

What do we hold to if there is nothing to hold to?

*All reality is one.*

*Nothing is to be taken literally in the spiritual world.*

*Matter is alive and the mirror in which we see  
ourselves and the Sacred.*

*Growth and becoming constitute purpose.*

*“I shall savor, with heightened consciousness, the intense yet tranquil rapture of a vision whose coherence and harmonies I can never exhaust.”*

*- Teilhard De Chardin*