

ΠΡΟΧΩΜΕΝ

LET US ATTEND!

Οικουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον - Ἱερά Μητρόπολις Νέας Ζηλανδίας
Ecumenical Patriarchate - Holy Archdiocese of New Zealand

Αριθμός Φύλλου - Number of Leaf 35°

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Ἀπόστολος (Πρὸς Γαλάτας 2, 16-20)

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ὅτι ἐξ ἔργων νόμου οὐ δικαιωθήσεται πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ γένοιτο. Εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνιστάνω. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον ἵνα θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῆ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

Apostle (St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

Rejoice, O thou barren one who hadst not borne until now; for lo, in all truth thou hast conceived the lamp of the Sun, and he shall send forth his light over all the earth, which is afflicted with blindness. Dance, O Zacharias, and cry out with great boldness: The one to be born is the blest Prophet of God Most High.



Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἦχος δ' Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε

Ἡ πρώην οὐ τίκτουσα, στεῖρα εὐφράνθητι·
ἰδοὺ γὰρ συνέλαβες, Ἥλιου λύχνον
σαφῶς, φωτίζειν τὸν μέλλοντα, πᾶσαν
τὴν οἰκουμένην, ἀβλεψίαν νοσοῦσαν,
χόρευε Ζαχαρία, ἐκβοῶν παρρησίᾳ,
Προφήτης τοῦ Ὑψίστου ἐστίν, ὁ μέλλον
τίκτεσθαι.

Ευαγγέλιο (Μάρκον 8, 34-38, 9, 1)

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Εἴ τις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἔλθειν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθείτω μοι. Ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν θέλη τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσει τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου σώσει αὐτήν. Τί γὰρ ὠφελεῖ ἄνθρωπον κερδῆσαι τὸν κόσμον ὅλον καὶ ζημιωθῆναι τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; τί γὰρ δοῖ ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν ἐπαισχυνθῆ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς, Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶν τινες ὧδε τῶν ἐστηκότων οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσιν τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

Gospel (Mark 8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."



Ερμηνευτικό σχόλιο – Biblical explanation

Αλήθεια τι θα ωφελήσει τον άνθρωπο να αποκτήσει όλα τα αγαθά του κόσμου αν τελικά χάσει την ψυχή του; Αν συνειδητοποιούσαμε ότι η ψυχή μας είναι ότι πολυτιμότερο έχουμε, διότι είναι αθάνατη, τότε θα αλλάζαμε στάση ζωής. Θα ενδιαφερόμασταν πολύ περισσότερο για την πνευματική παρά για την οικονομική μας κατάσταση. Τελικά το πρόβλημα του σημερινού ανθρώπου είναι ότι: ο φόβος του θανάτου τον ωθεί στην απόκτηση υλικών αγαθών νομίζοντας πως έτσι μπορεί να αποφύγει τον θάνατο. Αλλά όσα σπίτια, χρήματα, εξουσία κι αν αποκτήσουμε, μέσα μας θα έχουμε ένα μεγάλο κενό το οποίο δεν καλύπτεται με τίποτα υλικό. Η λύση βρίσκεται στην αθάνατη ψυχή μας, με τη βοήθεια του σταυρού μπορούμε να την διατηρούμε καθαρή και αρεστή στον Θεό. Παίρνουμε παράδειγμα από την μεγάλη αγάπη του Κυρίου μας που κορυφώνεται στον Τίμιο Σταυρό και προσπαθούμε να αγαπούμε όλο τον κόσμο, φίλους και εχθρούς. Έτσι μπορούμε να σώσουμε την ψυχή μας, ακολουθώντας την γεμάτη αγάπη σταυρική πορεία του Χριστού.

Truly, what does it profit a person to acquire all the wealth of the world if in the end they lose their soul? If we realised that our soul is the most precious object we possess, because it is immortal, then we would change our attitude to life. We would show far greater concern for our spiritual life rather than our economic circumstances. Ultimately the problem with modern humanity is this: fearing death we are motivated into acquiring more material possessions believing in so doing that we may avoid death. But despite all the houses, money, power that we may accumulate, inside of us remains a huge void that cannot be covered over by any material goods. The solution is to be found in our immortal soul; which with the help of the Cross can be maintained clean and agreeable to God. We are taught by the example of great love shown by our Lord, who was crowned upon the True Cross, to love the whole world- both friends and enemies. Thus are we able to save our souls, following the love filled passion-bearing path of Christ.