

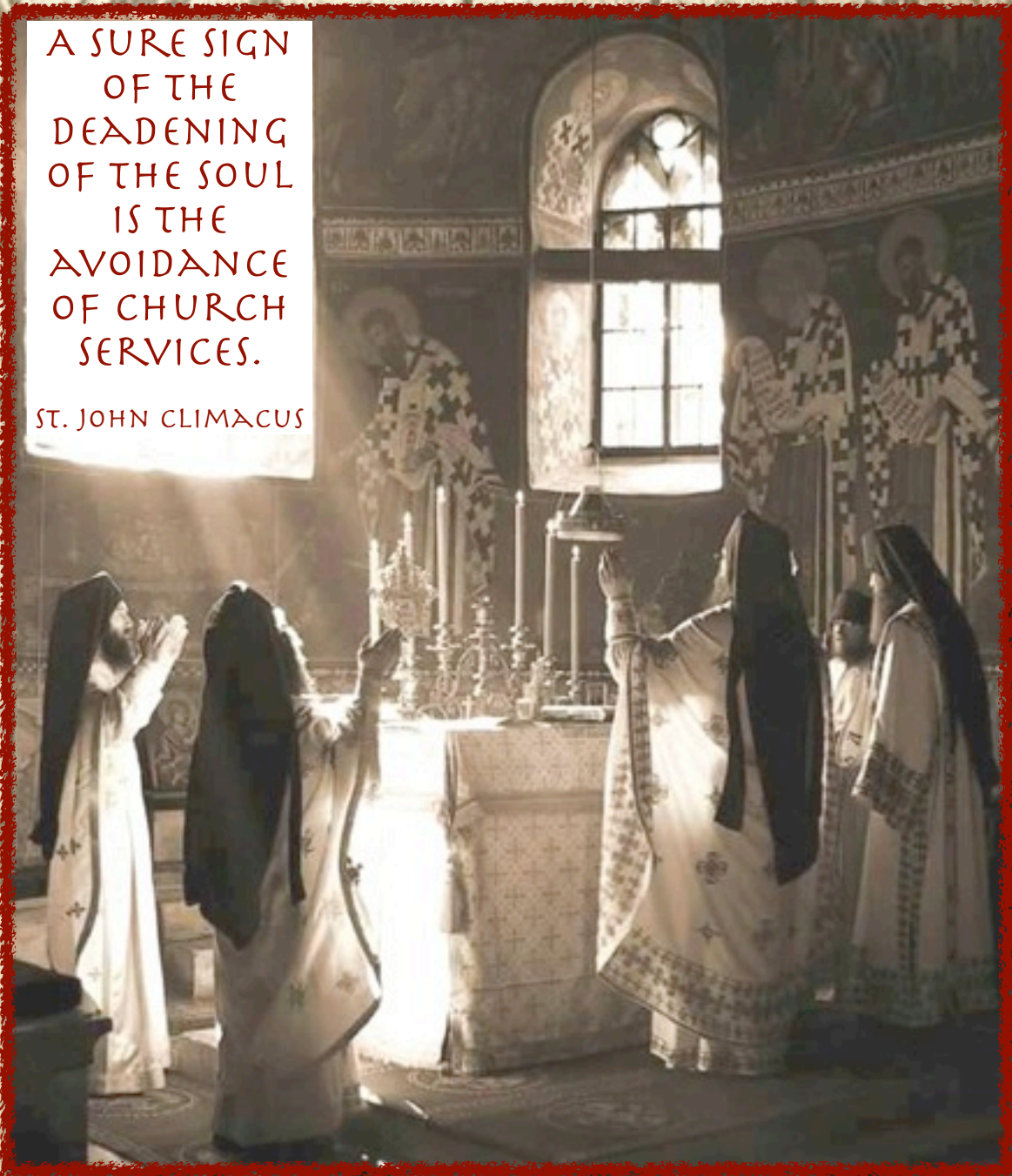
+ St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church +

كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس الانطاكية الأرثوذكسية

SUNDAY BULLETIN - JULY 26, 2015 A.D.

A SURE SIGN
OF THE
DEADENING
OF THE SOUL
IS THE
AVOIDANCE
OF CHURCH
SERVICES.

ST. JOHN CLIMACUS



80 de Castelnau Est, Montreal, QC, H2R 1P2 +Rev. Fr. Mark-Arsenios Wyatt (Pastor)

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WE ARE A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA,
WHICH IS AN ARCHDIOCESE OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE OF ANTIOCH & ALL THE EAST.

لُغتنا انطاكيّة، لُغتنا واحدة

“Our language is Antiochian, our language is One” - H.B. Patriarch John X

THE HOLY EPISTLE (Galatians 3:23-4:5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، قَبْلَمَا جَاءَ الْإِيمَانُ كُنَّا مَحْرُوسِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، مُغْلَقًا عَلَيْنَا إِلَى الْإِيمَانِ الْعَتِيدِ أَنْ يُعْلَنَ. إِذَا قَدْ كَانَ النَّامُوسُ مُؤَدِّبَنَا إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ، لَكِي نَتَدَبَّرَ بِالْإِيمَانِ. وَلَكِنْ بَعْدَ مَا جَاءَ الْإِيمَانُ لَسْنَا بَعْدُ تَحْتَ مُؤَدِّبٍ. لِأَنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا أَبْنَاءُ اللَّهِ بِالْإِيمَانِ بِالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. لِأَنَّ كُلَّكُمْ الَّذِينَ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ بِالْمَسِيحِ قَدْ لَبَسْتُمْ الْمَسِيحَ. لَيْسَ يَهُودِيٌّ وَلَا يُونَانِيٌّ. لَيْسَ عَبْدٌ وَلَا حُرٌّ. لَيْسَ ذَكَرٌ وَأُنْثَى، لِأَنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا وَاحِدٌ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. فَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ فَانْتُمْ إِذَا نَسَلْتُمْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَحَسَبَ الْمَوْعِدِ وَرِثَتِهِ. وَإِنَّمَا أَقُولُ: مَا دَامَ الْوَارِثُ قَاصِرًا لَا يَفْرُقُ شَيْئًا عَنِ الْعَبْدِ، مَعَ كَوْنِهِ صَاحِبَ الْجَمِيعِ. بَلْ هُوَ تَحْتَ أَوْصِيَاءَ وَوَكَلَاءَ إِلَى الْوَقْتِ الْمُوجَلِّ مِنْ أَبِيهِ. هَكَذَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا: لَمَّا كُنَّا قَاصِرِينَ كُنَّا مُسْتَعْبَدِينَ تَحْتَ أَرْكَانِ الْعَالَمِ. وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا جَاءَ مِلءُ الزَّمَانِ، أَرْسَلَ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ مَوْلُودًا مِنْ امْرَأَةٍ، مَوْلُودًا تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِيَفْتَدِيَ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِنُنَالَ التَّبْنِيَّ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Matthew 14:14-22)

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ أَبْصَرَ يَسُوعُ جَمْعًا كَثِيرًا فَتَحَنَّنَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَشَفَى مَرَضَاهُمْ. وَلَمَّا صَارَ الْمَسَاءُ تَقَدَّمَ إِلَيْهِ تَلَامِيذُهُ قَائِلِينَ: ((الْمَوْضِعُ خَلَاءٌ وَالْوَقْتُ قَدْ مَضَى. اصْرِفِ الْجُمُوعَ لَكِي يَمْضُوا إِلَى الْقُرَى وَيَبْتَاعُوا لَهُمْ طَعَامًا.)) (فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ:)) ((لَا حَاجَةَ لَهُمْ أَنْ يَمْضُوا. أَعْطُوهُمْ أَنْتُمْ لِيَأْكُلُوا.)) (فَقَالُوا لَهُ:)) ((لَيْسَ عِنْدَنَا هَهُنَا إِلَّا خَمْسَةٌ أَرْغَفَةٌ وَسَمَكَتَانِ.)) (فَقَالَ:)) ((انْتُونِي بِهَا إِلَى هُنَا.)) (فَأَمَرَ الْجُمُوعَ أَنْ يَتَّكِنُوا عَلَى الْعُشْبِ. ثُمَّ أَخَذَ الْأَرْغَفَةَ الْخَمْسَةَ وَالسَّمَكَتَيْنِ، وَرَفَعَ نَظْرَهُ نَحْوَ السَّمَاءِ وَبَارَكَ وَكَسَّرَ وَأَعْطَى الْأَرْغَفَةَ لِلتَّلَامِيذِ، وَالتَّلَامِيذُ لِلْجُمُوعِ. فَأَكَلَ الْجَمِيعُ وَشَبِعُوا. ثُمَّ رَفَعُوا مَا فَضَلَ مِنَ الْكُسْرِ اثْنَتَيْ عَشْرَةَ قَفَّةً مَمْلُوءَةً. وَالْأَكْلُونَ كَانُوا نَحْوَ خَمْسَةِ آلَافِ رَجُلٍ، مَا عَدَا النِّسَاءَ وَالْأَوْلَادَ. وَلِوَقْتِ الزَّمَنِ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذُهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَّفِينَةَ وَيَسْبِقُوهُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الْجُمُوعَ.

"As it is impossible to verbally describe the sweetness of honey to one who has never tasted honey, so the goodness of God cannot be clearly communicated by way of teaching if we ourselves are not able to penetrate into the goodness of the Lord by our own experience."

+ St. Basil the Great

SHAKE THE DUST OFF!

By: Fr. Barnabas Powell

Sometimes you just gotta cut your losses! But how do you do that, especially when emotions are involved? It seems I was at a very familiar place in my life. Being someone who loves to help and loves to be seen as a benefit in someone else's life, I was once again hitting a brick wall with this person. Try as I may, I just couldn't get past the wall of anger and even outright hatred in this other person's life. I tried being nice. I tried being apologetic. I tried being funny. I tried being nonchalant. I even tried being brutally honest. And nothing worked. Everything I tried ended up making things worse! I didn't get it. Was I really that ineffective? Yes, I was. I had to come to the conclusion that I was not going to be the one to break the icy wall between me and this other person, and I was a minister! I had to confront my foolish pride that I was always effective. I had to admit this was one person I was never going to be able to befriend. It was hard. I had to leave before I made things even worse. Maybe you've been in the same spot in your life when you've tried to make things better and all you did was succeed in making things worse! The Lord knew there would be times when we would face these moments and He had some powerful instruction for His disciples when they hit that brick wall in their ministry! Look at our Gospel Lesson today in Matthew 10:9-15:

The Lord said to his disciples, "Take no gold, nor silver, nor copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor a staff; for the laborer deserves his food. And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it, and stay with him until you depart. As you enter the house, salute it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And if any one will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I say to you, it shall be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town."

Jesus tells His disciples that, during their lives as they were obedient to His command to "go into all the world and make disciples" His disciples would confront an unpleasant reality: they were not going to succeed every time. And when they got to that spot, they had a choice; keep beating their heads against a brick wall or move on. The Lord told them to move on! You see, you may not be the one to get through to a particular person. There may be another who can accomplish that task, and that person can't get to this hard work while you're in the way! The hard work of discerning when it's time to go has everything to do with two very important insights into YOURSELF.

First, the humble realization that success isn't up to you. You are a servant. Often people ask me if this group or that group is right or if this person or that person is good and I always respond with "I'm in sales, not management. I don't get those memos from headquarters!" This vital perspective keeps you from the "savior's sickness" that cons you into believing you're the only one who can save the world! That easy and prideful delusion just sets you up for the rude awakening that there are some people you won't reach, and that's OK. Your developing of humility is vital to your own spiritual maturity. God is the One Who never fails!

Second, the wonderful truth that you and those around you are truly free. As I was making my spiritual journey toward the Orthodox Church, a wise man told me "You aren't free to say 'yes' until you are truly free to say 'no.'" You see, the gift of human freedom means you are called to respect other's freedom as much as God respects your freedom. He never forces Himself on anyone and you shouldn't either. This peaceful perspective sets you free to so love another that you allow them the very freedom they must have if they are ever going to be truly who they are. That goes for you, too!

Today, there are going to be times when you have to "shake the dust off your feet" and move on, but that isn't a failure as much as it is a true victory of love, humility, and respect. If you can allow the Spirit to develop a peaceful calm in your heart, then all the "savior complex" that drives us crazy and creates such frenzy in our hearts will melt into the freedom of love. And with that freedom, we leave all the results to God Who loves all of us more than we, ourselves, know how to love. Is it time to dust off your feet in some places in your life?

What if we began to treat our Bibles the way we treat our cell phones?

What if we...

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turned back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of an emergency?

...spent an hour or more using it each day?



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CHURCH RAFFLE

** AUGUST 25 2015 **

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PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER

60th Anniversary **CEDARS HOME**
Gala Banquet - September 11 2015
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SATURDAY: VESPERS (7:00PM)
CONFESSION BY APPOINTMENT

SUNDAY:
ORTHROS AT 9:00AM
DIVINE LITURGY AT 10:30AM
- NO VESPERS ON AUGUST 8 -



MET. BOULOS YAZIGI
& MET. YOUHANNA IBRAHIM
ABDUCTED BY TERRORISTS IN SYRIA
ON APRIL 22, 2013
THE INTERNATIONAL SILENCE CONTINUES
DURING THE GENOCIDE OF THE
CHRISTIANS OF THE MIDDLE EAST.
WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THEM ALL!