

deluded. He proceeds to darkness and perceives what is true as falsehood and falsehood as what is true.

With the ecclesiastical life, in other words, with fasting, prayer, confession and his regular and unobstructed participation in the cup of Life, this inner hearing "with time" is healed and man tastes both the inspirations and the sweetenings of divine. Grace, as well as the poisonous bytes of snakes and scorpions, in other words, the battle of the passions and of the demons. With a constant alteration of the spiritual conditions, light – darkness, burning - coolness and freezing – warmth, he becomes an adult, he comes out of the condition of ignorance, of blindness and of deafness, he is united with Christ, he is brightened and, beautified, enlightened and wants all the people near him to see and find the true Light also, which he confesses and simultaneously imparts .

Archim. E. T.

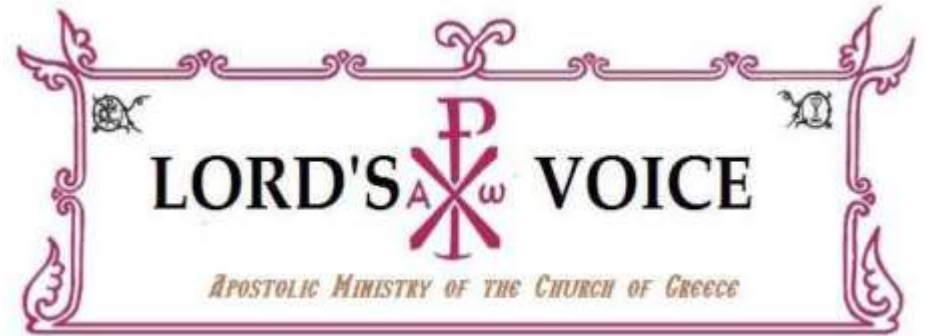
**SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014** 7th Sunday of Matthew , Panteleimon the Great Martyr , & Healer, St. Nicholas of Novgorod, the fool-for-Christ, Anthoussa the Righteous Confessor Martyrs of Thrace who were drowned , Manuel the Righteous .

**TONE OF THE WEEK:** Tone Plagal Second **Eothinon** Seventh Eothinon

**EPISTLE** St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 2:1-10

**GOSPEL** Matthew 9:27-35

**NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2014** 8th Sunday of Matthew, Isaacius, Dalmatus, & Faustus, Ascetics of the Dalmation Monastery, Salome the Holy Myrrbearer , Theoctistus the Wonderworker.



62<sup>nd</sup> Year

July 27, 2014

Pamphlet # 30 (3191)

## COME, CHRIST, THE TRUE LIGHT

In today's gospel passage, beloved brethren in Christ, there is talk about the healing of two blind man and one deaf possessed fellow by our Lord.

### A begging cry

"Have mercy on us....", the two blind men cry near the home where Jesus was and furthermore they add his genealogical tree to their petition: "son of David", which means that they were informed about the person they were addressing.

It is this cry which also gave life to others, cast out demons from tortured human beings, resurrected dead people, healed invalids, granted health to sick people and physical robustness to paralytics.

To Christ's question if they believe that He can do something like that, they answer without hesitation "yes Lord." Then He also heals them saying: "let it be done according to your faith". He means according to your faith in my Person. The main thing however is that together with the sensorial light they also found the Light of Truth, the noetic Light of Christ, since furthermore they addressed Him right from the beginning. Furthermore to Christ's strict command that they not spread the

## 7th Sunday of Matthew

### The Gospel of Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

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miracle, obviously so that the Lord would not become prematurely known (Trembelas), they were not obedient and advertised Him through his miracle to all that area.

Analogically the person who is living Christ, who is living in his resurrected Body, the Church, can't not confess it, and not say with his mouth and do with his body that which his heart is living. We cannot not confess in the Divine Liturgy and so long as we have communed, that "we did not see the true Light." The joy and light of Christ cannot be hidden because they are his.

## A deaf possessed fellow

A deaf possessed fellow was the third healed person of today's Gospel. There is deafness due to natural causes. There is also hysterical deafness, coming in other words from a neuropsychological disturbance. There is also spiritual deafness.

The Gospel here speaks to us of someone who had lost his hearing due to a demon. The demon had deprived him of hearing. The Lord casts out the demon and the, up till then, deaf fellow begins both hearing and speaking. Those present wondered, admitting the unheard of events, the wondrous things which they were seeing for the first time.

The Pharisees are an exception, who moved by envy, obviously also because of the Christ's rising popularity, not only disbelieved, but rendered the miracle to Satan. Here we're dealing with spiritual deafness which takes them to the point of blaspheming the Holy Spirit also. Because this is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit: to call the divine satanic. It is a sin which will not be forgiven unto the ages according to the words of Christ himself (Luke 12:10). This concerns all those who voluntarily slander the obvious energies of the Holy Spirit. Those who have become hardened and there is no longer hope for them to repent. Their condition reminds us, let's say, of something of the unchangability of the demons.

## Spiritual illnesses and their cure

Blindness and deafness, consequently aren't only physical illnesses, but also spiritual ones, which means something infinitely graver. The Fathers of the Church and the whole ecclesiastical Tradition, tell us the familiar "the mind sees and the mind hears". When a person voluntarily yields to the suggestions of the passions and of the demons "he ruins the hearing of his mind" (elder Joseph the cave dweller and hesychast) and then he is