

bitterly confessing that he alone himself is worthy of hell and no one else upon the earth, like Anthony the Great (P. Evdokimov).

The miracle of Christ makes one joyous and humbles more

From the moment of the miracle of the catching of the fish, Peter feels that he's even more sinful, unworthy for such a great miracle to happen to him. So for this reason, he asks Christ to go out of his boat, publicly confessing his sinfulness.

Thus, in the man of God, the increasing closeness of the divine Presence results in the continually increasing sense of unworthiness before the divine gifts, as also the increased sense of his sinfulness before the amazing purity, glory and glove of the triune God. He confesses to everyone his "nothingness", as the Fathers say, in other words, his zero, his nothing, but because God puts up with him, He's given to him furthermore also as food and drink, he rejoices like a little child and wants his joy to be imparted to everyone. Thus he consoles, he supports his brothers and, if necessary, also teaches the others, being called by Christ. He becomes a fisherman of men through the gift of the divine Priesthood, precisely as happened also to Peter

Archim. E. T.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2014 1st Sunday of Luke, Chariton the Confessor, Our Righteous Father Alkeisonus, Metropolitan of Nicopolis; Old Epirus, Baruch the Prophet, Neophytos & Auxentios the Martyrs of Cyprus, Wenceslaus the Martyr, Prince of the Czechs

TONE OF THE WEEK: Grave - **Eothinon** Fifth.

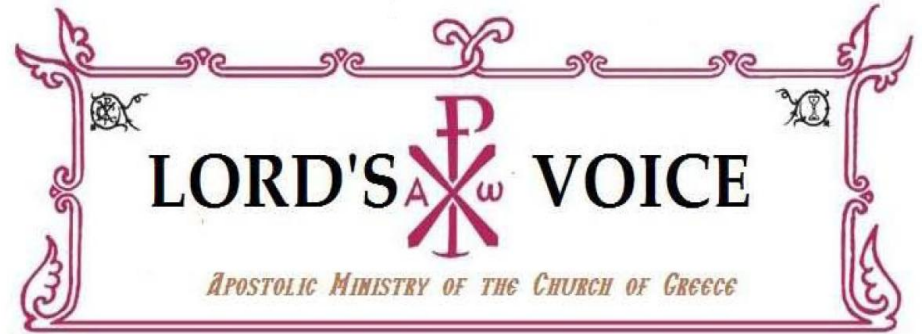
EPISTLE St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10

GOSPEL Luke 5:1-11

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2014 2nd Sunday of Luke, Charitina the Martyr, Methodia the Righteous of Kimolos, Eudokimos the Unknown of Mount Athos, Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Hermogenes & Tikhon, Metropolitans of Moscow

EPISTLE St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1

GOSPEL Luke 6:31-36



62nd Year

SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

Pamphlet # 39 (3200)

THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN OUR LIFE

In today's gospel passage, beloved brethren, Christ teaches the crowds from inside the boat of Simon Peter. Upon finishing His teaching, He urges Peter to cast his nets in the waters of Gennesaret. Peter answers Him, yes, on the one hand we toiled all night long trying to catch fish and we didn't catch anything, however because You are saying it now, I will obey and we will cast the nets again in the waters. And, oh by a miracle, they caught so many fish that the nets were ripping. They furthermore called other fishermen to help. There were so many fish, that the boats almost sank. Seeing the strange miracle Peter, surprised kneels before Christ and tells Him: leave from my boat, because I am a sinful person. Everyone was amazed. Christ calmed him down telling him to not fear, because from now on he would be fishing men.

Realizing our failure

One point which we must pay attention to is Peter's confession, that he didn't catch any fish, even though he toiled all night long. It is very important for a person to confess his

1st Sunday of Luke

The Gospel of Luke 5:1-11

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

complete failure to God. It truly happens that we're all failures. Even if we keep everything and we didn't keep something of the commandments of Christ, we didn't keep anything, says the word of God (James 2:10). So who is able to boast about something since he is a failure in everything? From this event it shows on how much of an unrealistic basis whatsoever feeling of superiority, pride and haughtiness is based on, which overcomes us. blood with Him and with each other. All of us are resurrected, "relatives by blood" spiritually. It remains for us to be living this. It is also very tragic for us to ponder that the social, political and financial factors of our age strengthens such a faulty from the

foundation and imaginary viewpoint about our own self. Precisely here the various psychological problems and the generalized anxiety which trouble people have their basis. Our age formulates a culture of victims who are lured by their successes and achievements.

Therefore, believing in our comprehensive failure and confessing it courageously and with full realization to God, we set the foundation for our cure in Christ.

I believe means I entrust myself

Peter has his failure before his eyes, he mentions it to Christ, and He tells him to try the effort again. He fully trusts the Lord. He tells Him his thought, but he is obedient to Christ's exhortation. "Because you are saying this, I will obey You and not my mind," it's as if he is telling him.

It is truly a very big manner for man to learn to not make a dialogue with his mind, with his intellect. On the contrary he must teach his mind to make "discussion" with God. Here is based the "pray ceaselessly" of the Apostle Paul. Prayer is that which will strengthen this feeling of trust in God, which is so lacking from contemporary man.

With confession again, the believer confesses his failure and simultaneously his disposition to repent, in other words, to change his life. He leaves the pathology of the loneliness of the individual and addresses himself toward communion, to participation in the ecclesiastical event through communion, finally, of the Body and of the Blood of Christ. He becomes a person in the Person and through the Person of Jesus Christ and simultaneously (only) thus does he also meet with other people – persons.

In the Church we learn to continually confess our failure. We come before our responsibilities. Man reaches the point of