

on me” the sincere confession of passionate thoughts, desires which persist and of things we committed, to our spiritual father, our regular approaching Divine Communion with a spirit of repentance, studying the word of God and the writings of our holy Fathers, and good works which follow, are the expressions of genuine love for His Person.

Obedience to God’s will and not to our own many wills, heals loving to rule, humbles and spiritually transfigures loving to be first, so that we struggle who will concede his will more in order to comfort his neighbor, aside naturally from sin and heresy. Unwavering trust in divine Providence, with the daily bread being the only concern, according to the Lord’s Prayer, chases away anxiety for the future, which furthermore we don’t control, chases away the spirit of avarice, filling us with the carefreeness of “possessionlessness”.

Finally the many times bloody struggle for us to not yield to unnamable fleshly thoughts, is inscribed in the cartouches of those struggling the world over, as diligence in the virtue of virginity. Thus, with the passage of time, we also reach the point of feeling next to Christ, clothed and in our right minds, like so many many saints, martyrs and strugglers of the faith.

Archim. E. T.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2014 6TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

**Commemoration of the Great Earthquake in Constantinople ,  
The Holy Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-streamer.**

**TONE OF THE WEEK:** Third- **Eothinon** Nineth

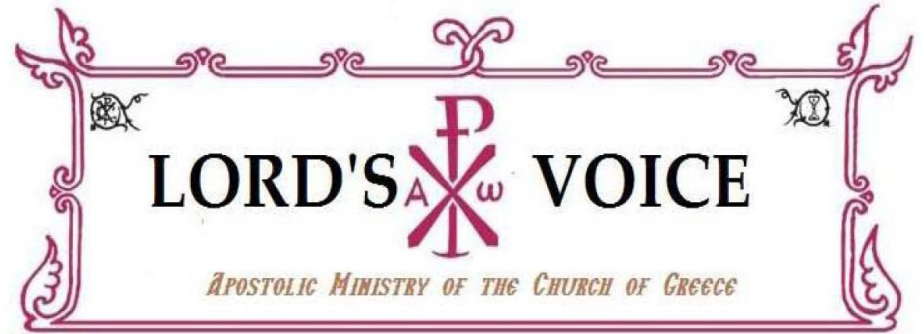
**EPISTLE** St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 2:1-10

**GOSPEL** Luke 8:26-39

**NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2014 5TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, The Holy  
Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidophorus, and  
Anempodistus, Domnina, Domna, & Kyriaki, the Martyrs**

**EPISTLE** St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

**GOSPEL** Luke 16:19-31



62<sup>nd</sup> Year

OCTOBER 26, 2014

Pamphlet # 43 (3204)

## CHRIST LIBERATES US FROM THE PASSIONS AND THE DEMONS

Today’s gospel passage, beloved brethren, speaks about a man who met with Christ in the land of the Gadarenes. This man was in a tragic spiritual and psychosomatic condition, because as the text clarifies, 10,000 demons had entered inside him and were mercilessly torturing his soul and body. The devil, in other words, hypostatically inhabited inside him. The result was that this creature of God, had lost himself, his contact with other people, circulating naked on account of foolishness and having the tombs instead of another habitation, breaking the chain’s which they sometimes put on him. His case intensely reminds us of those truly inhabiting “the land and shadow of death” (Mt. 4:16).

### Jesus, son of the most high God

The confession of the demons about the person of Christ impresses us. They believe in his godhead unrelated to if they are freaking! One might say that a hardhearted atheist by conviction is in a worse condition than they. The Holy Scripture calls him “foolish”, in other words, the person who does not have brakes in the mind: “the fool said in his heart there is no God” (Ps. 13:1. 52:1).

## 6th Sunday of Luke

### The Gospel of Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for **him**.

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The demon showing how weak he is before the almighty Christ, asks Him permission to enter the pigs, as also happened. More

precisely God "concedes" that the demons pass into the pigs because pig meat

### Clothed and in his right mind

The fellow who up to a little while ago was in a tragic condition, after the casting out of the demons, is standing "at the feet" of Jesus, now wearing the garment of prudence and chastity. It is precisely this which the inhabitants of the Gadarenes did not pay attention to and it is precisely this which they ought to have paid attention to.

Christ seems to have placed them all in a dilemma, if they prefer Him or the pigs. They made their choice. They preferred the pigs and cast Christ far away.

The same thing happens with us, beloved. From the morning watch until night we don't do anything else rather than to satisfy the various named and various types of our passions, "sacrificing them" at the altar of the idol which each one has formed for himself. We don't want Christ to inhabit our heart, no matter with what or how much this costs us, so that we can be clothed and in our right mind.

Saint Demetrios who celebrates today also made the correct choice, who, on the one hand, is a gift of God to us and His sign among His people and on the other hand is he is our own judgement for our attitude towards Christ. Saint Demetrios through his martyrdom becomes Christ's and the whole world's. He becomes the completely universalized person, the person who contains everyone in his heart, because it widened so much, so as to become the place of Christ, the Church, a Paradise of delight. And all of us rest in him, accepting his precious love. And he is a sign of God for us all to imitate him, trampling upon loving to rule, pleasure-loving and our avarice, three demons, who in various ways torture all of us.

### Our cure

There is no other cure and furthermore radical one, without reverting and going backwards, other than Christ, from our love for Him. Our regular church going, the ceaseless invocation of divine mercy through noetic prayer of the heart, the "Lord Jesus, Christ, have mercy