

those who in a human manner embitter him, he forgives them and fights for them. And he is ready to impart peace also to his neighbor.

Working what is good, kindness, makes us good within the Church. A good person is one thing, and a good Christian is another. The good person remains in the present world. The good Christian lives the perspective of eternity, because he has his reference in God. And the life of our Church makes us see what separates us from God and our fellow man, and what unites us. It does not leave us in the correction of our behavior, but pushes us to change our heart. So, for this reason also, within the Church, salvation comes, which, let us strive for, with all our powers

Fr. T. M

**SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2021 2ND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW ,**

*Andrew of Crete Author of the Great Canon, Martha, mother of St. Symeon Stylites the Younger, Asclepias the Wonderworker, Michael Choniates, Metropolitan of Athens*

**TONE OF THE WEEK** : First Tone

**EOTHINON** : Second

**EPISTLE READING** : St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 2:10-16

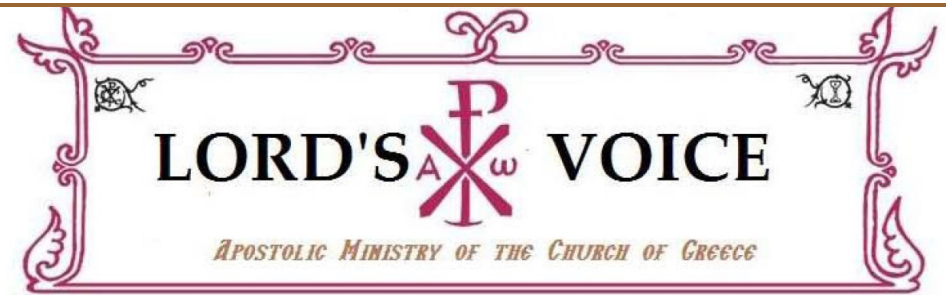
**Gospel Reading** : Matthew 4:18-23

**SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021 3RD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW ,**

*Euphemia the Great Martyr , The All-Praised Olga, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Princess of Kiev, Nektarios the New Martyr , Sophrony the Athonite of Essex, Nicodemos the New Martyr of Mt. Athos .*

**EPISTLE READING** : St. Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter to Corinthians 6:1-10

**Gospel Reading** : Matthew 6:22-33



**69<sup>TH</sup> YEAR JULY 4 2021 PAMPHLET # 27 (3553)**

## **DOES IT SUFFICE FOR ME TO BE A GOOD PERSON?**

We people have work in an eminent position in our life. It secures for us "living" and "living well". It gives us validity. It makes us feel useful in our life. No one wants unemployment. Whoever toils, becomes a person, obtains quality of soul and life, because the indolent person is not able to admire whatever he has, and whatever is given to him, but he only knows how to demand.

### **Spiritual work**

There is however also, another work, the spiritual one. Our being seeks God. It works in order to know His will. It fights to change elements of our character, which are tortured by the passions; it aims at what is good and receives from God "glory, honor and peace" (Rom. 2:10). It does not suffice for us to do what is good. We need to also become essentially good. Good deeds easily are done for people to glorify us, whereas they give us a feeling that we do not need something else, since we are good people. And so, we think

**EPISTLE READING :ST.PAUL'S LETTER TO ROMANS 2:10-16**

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

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that we don't need the Church, nor do we have something that burdens our conscience, from the moment we are doing what is good.

### **The commandment of love**

I am doing what is good however, means that I am working the commandments of God. The main commandment is love. Man's sin is comprised of departing from the love of God, but also in the refusal for love to be the criterion that defines our relationship with our fellow men. Sin is our choice to have our own self, viewpoints, interests, our desires, as the criterion. Thus, we see the other person as

an object. We see the world as a source to be taken advantage of, for us to be living well, even while destroying it. We exchange what is good for the moment of pleasure, we prefer the "here and now", instead of the joy that springs from love, which, despite the fact that it has toil, lasts. Swayed by the wicked one, the devil, we imitate what is evil. Thus, we are led to a spiritual death. So let's again look at the meaning of love that sets out from God.

### **Three gifts in return**

When we do what is good, believing in God, when we rejoice, seeing in the other person the image of God, then we truly are glorifying God. And then the three elements come which validate us. The glory as a gift back of God to us, as God, accepting our toil, and as an assurance in our heart that God loves us. The honor, and this as a gift back of God. God makes wondrous whoever loves Him and makes the others also rejoice with them. And they honor them. They enjoy the companionship, the experience, the wisdom, the love, and their simplicity. And at the same time, the peace of God. He who is joyous within him, and the others also rejoice with him, is peaceful. He does not have something that tortures his being, since he feels the blessing of God. and the trust in Him beautifying his life. Even the circumstances of life do not shake him. He takes a deep breath, prays, and proceeds with courage on the path that God appoints. Nothing separates him either from God or from his fellow man. Even