separation from God. Paul calls everyone to repentance and spiritual vigilance, as he does not separate theory from practice, doctrine from life, faith from ethics.

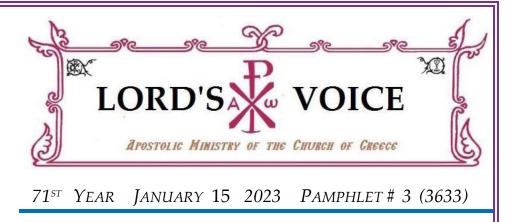
### But Christ is everything and in everything

Our passage concludes with Paul's reference to a new situation; that of the reborn man, where there are no racial, ethnic, religious and social distinctions, but: "Christ is everything for us always, both office and genus and you all became one in Christ, being his body", as Chrysostom says.

Certainly, this new situation is God's greatest gift, at the same time, it is a great responsibility for Christians of every age. We must work and pray for the reduction of various differences and divisions; for Christ to prevail as a unifying power, love and righteousness, since all things belong to Him, and He pervades them. I wonder, do we seek to live and walk with this truth?

#### Archim. N.K

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023, 12TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, Paul of Thebes, John the Hut-Dweller, Pansophios the Martyr of Alexandria EPISTLE READING: St. Paul's Letter to Colossians 3: 4-11 GOSPEL READING: Luke 17: 12-19 TONE OF THE WEEK : Second plagal Tone EOTHINON :Nineth Eothinon SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 15TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, Timothy the Apostle of the 70, The Righteous Martyr Anastasius of Persia, Joseph the Sanctified EPISTLE READING: St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 4: 9-15 GOSPEL READING: Luke 19:7-10



### "CHRIST, OUR LIFE"

In today's Epistle passage, the Apostle Paul emphatically proclaims the Church's belief that Christ is our life. Not only the guide, the cause and purpose of life, but life par excellence, our very life, in its fullness. The Lord assured us that He came into the world "that we might have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10) and that He is the resurrection and the life, the way, and the truth (Jn. 11:25; 14:6). And the Evangelist John epigrammatically points out that God gave us eternal life and this life exists in His Son. Whoever has the Son, has life (1 Jn. 5:11-12).

The completely new thing that Christ gives with His life to man is, that he no longer remains alone and cut off from the life of God. Because man's acceptance of the communion and love of God means the transformation of individual self-sufficiency, in relationship and union with God. Then his delusion that he can derive the possibility of life exclusively from his "autonomous" and mortal nature, ceases.

# EPISTLE READING. ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO COLOSSIANS 3: 4-11

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

The believer foretastes in his heart the presence of the Kingdom of God, whose conquest has not yet been accomplished. And this is because the world still lies "in wickedness" and opposes the predominance of the life of Christ in the hearts of people. The believer foretastes in his heart the presence of the Kingdom of God, whose conquest has not yet been accomplished. And this is because the world still lies "in wickedness" and opposes the predominance of the life of Christ in the hearts of people.

## Children of God

The Apostle, as the "mouth of Christ", according to Saint Chrysostom, informs us that when Christ is

revealed, then we believers with Him, will also appear glorified. That is, the moment of our entrance and full participation in the divine life is the manifestation of Christ, His second and glorious Coming. Paul speaks very naturally about the end times, given that the longer one lives in the atmosphere of the Spirit, so much he transcends time limits and lives the unbroken continuation of time.

The Evangelist John quotes an amazing passage that helps us understand Paul's words. "Beloved, now we are children of God... but we know that, when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him as He really is" (1 Jn. 3:2).

Therefore, when Christ appears, the faithful, as glorified members of His Body, will see Him as Light, they will share in the ineffable goods of His Kingdom, they will become viewers of the indescribable beauty of His face, and like Him; saints, by the grace of God, eternal, immortal, incorrupt, Christ-like, filled with the Holy Spirit.

### Let us overcome sin

With this phrase, Paul recommends that a person transcend the destructive course that sin brings about in his life. Speaking of "the members on earth" he means the mental and physical powers of man with which he can commit sin. This negatively affects the entire psychosomatic dimension of man and leads the being to