



LESSON 1: WE REJOICE IN JESUS, THE SON OF GOD

Who Am I, and Whom Do I Follow?

A study of Jesus Christ as the Son of God, Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Perfect God and Perfect Man

Does my choice in friends tell me anything about who I am?

PRAYERS

OPENING PRAYER—“THE TRISAGION”:

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (3). Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen. All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for the glory of Your name. Lord have mercy (3). (My Orthodox Prayer Book, p.4)

OPENING PRAYER— FATHER, SON & HOLY SPIRIT:

“Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Trinity One in essence and inseparable.” (Green Divine Liturgy Hymnal, p.42)

OPENING PRAYER— ONLY BEGOTTEN SON:

Only begotten Son and Word of God immortal one. Who for our salvation did so humble yourself by taking on flesh by the Theotokos, and ever-Virgin Mary without change did you become man. And were crucified Christ our God but conquered death by your death. As one of the Holy Trinity and being glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, Save us. (Divine Liturgy Hymnal, p.20-22)

CLOSING PRAYER— PRE-COMMUNION PRAYER:

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body, and that this is truly Your own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to



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You: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and in deed, known and unknown. And make me worthy without condemnation to partake of Your pure mysteries for forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen. (My Orthodox Prayer Book, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, 1985, p.118)

PASSAGES

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”

Matthew 2:4-6 (Prophets predicted God would send a savior. Jesus fulfills that prediction or prophecy).

Matthew 3:17 (Jesus is God’s Son.)

Matthew 6:8-15 (Jesus teaches us how to pray to God.)

Matthew 8:26-27 (Jesus did many miracles and amazed many people.)

Matthew 28-20b (Jesus promises to be with us forever.)

John 3:16-17 (God loves us so much he sent Jesus to live and die for us. If we believe in him, we’ll live forever.)

John 14:6 (Jesus is the only way to be with God. Jesus is truth. Jesus is life.)

PRAXIS

THE NICENE- CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father; the Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord, Jesus

Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father, through Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from the heavens

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; Crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was buried; Rising on the third day according to the Scriptures. And ascending into the heavens, He is seated at the right hand of the Father; And coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead, His kingdom shall have no end; And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets; In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; I expect the resurrection of the dead; And the life of the age to come. Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

“All those who have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ.”

PATRISTICS

St. Gregory of Nyssa (explaining the verse from the Gospel of St. John, “and the Word was with God”): “the Word was not in God but with God, that is a separate Prosopon, the Word, also being perfect and true God.”

PARTICIPATION

Visit the poor, seniors, people in hospitals, nursing homes and orphanages, manifesting the teaching, “What you do to the least of these, you do unto me.”

Study in greater detail the Nicene Creed and what it means in terms of how you live your life.

Visit the Department of Outreach and Evangelism web site at: <http://www.outreach.goarch.org>

Read the Bible

Read *The Incarnate God*, Paul Meyendorff, St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press

Read *The Living God*, Olga Dunlop, St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press

Read *Pascha Transforms*, Tom Wolfman, St. Anthony’s Greek Orthodox Monastery

**WANTED
THE IDENTITY OF
THIS MAN.**



**THOSE WHO HELP
IDENTIFY HIM WILL
RECEIVE A
—REWARD—**

DRAFT