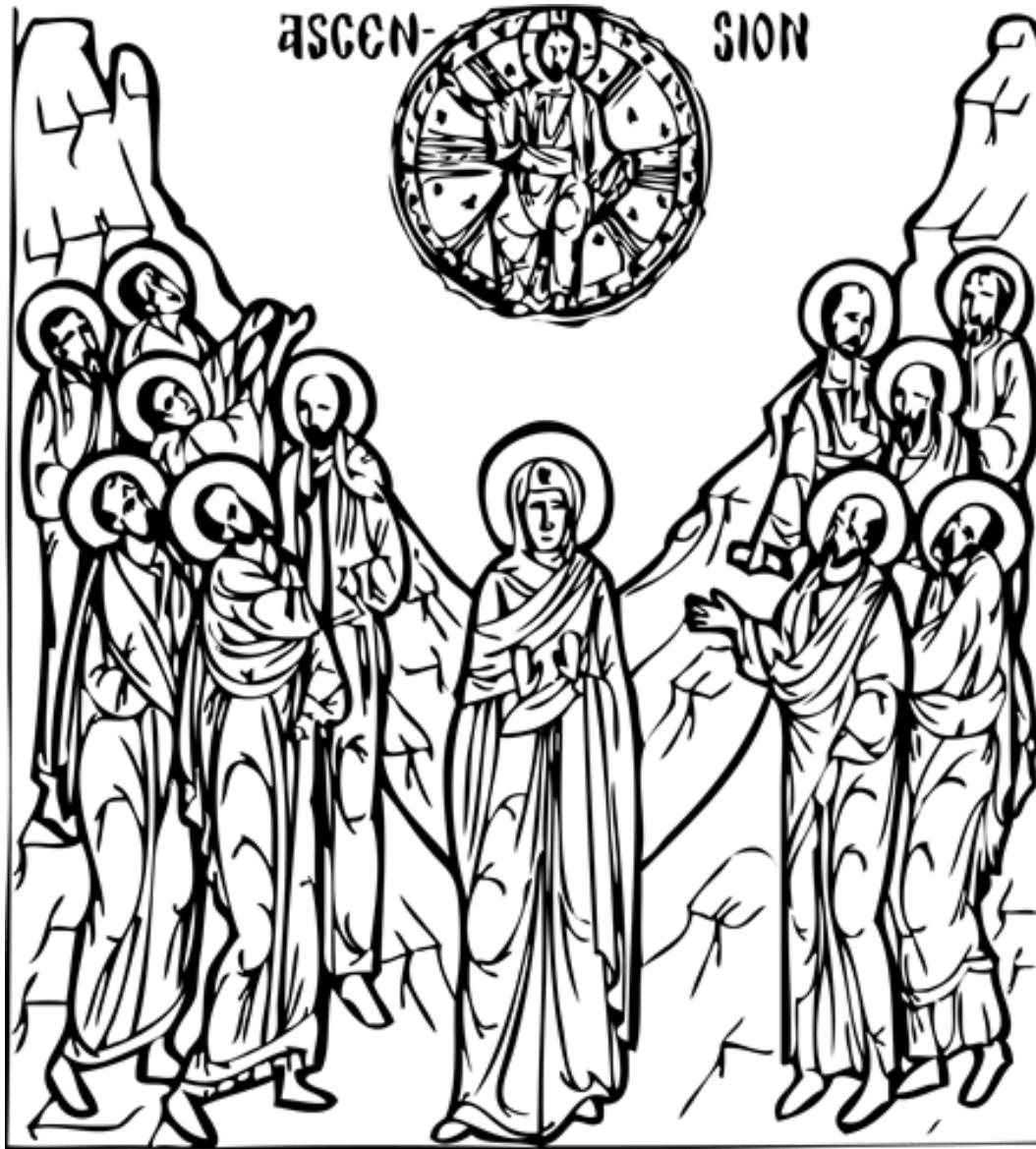


“He ascended into heaven”



The Children's Word

“Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven.” Mark 10:14

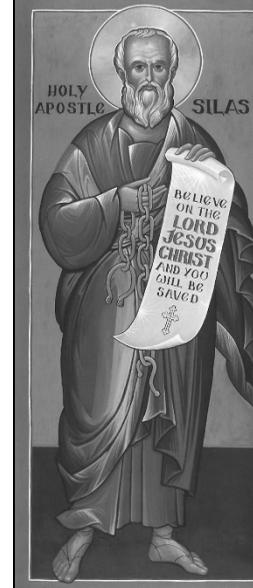
Sunday, June 6, 2021

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St. Paul loved his enemies!



How many times have you heard that you should “Love your enemies”? Well, probably lots. Our Lord Jesus Christ told us to love our enemies, and we read about it in the Bible. When we love our enemies, we show how much we love God. After all, God made everyone, even our enemies!

In today’s epistle reading, we hear about two of Jesus’s followers. They knew they should love their enemies, and they showed it with their actions too.

Saint Paul and Saint Silas got in trouble with the authorities because they were preaching about Christ. They were beaten up with sticks, their clothes were torn up, and then they were even thrown into prison! The prison guard sat outside their cell and watched them. That prison guard was their enemy, wasn’t he?

But that night, an earthquake shook the prison and opened the doors. Paul and Silas could be free, if they wanted to. But these two apostles thought of their enemy, the prison guard. They felt sorry for him because they knew he would be in big trouble if the prisoners escaped. Paul and Silas waited for him, and they told him about the Lord. This enemy now became a follower of Christ too. He wanted to be baptized, along with his whole family!

This story is so special, because it shows what happened when these men loved their enemy. What can happen when you love your enemies?

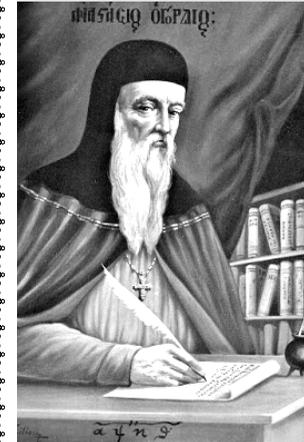
WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Anastasios
- Ascension
- Enemies
- Evrytania
- Love
- Paul
- Prison
- School
- Silas

B	V	Y	J	E	Q	X	Z	N	S	S	I	N	K	S
G	W	Q	C	J	X	E	O	L	I	C	A	T	D	I
W	F	X	T	F	U	I	P	D	N	A	C	I	Y	R
K	F	L	R	D	S	P	V	W	F	C	S	O	I	T
F	N	M	M	N	A	P	N	P	C	E	A	L	I	Q
E	O	N	E	U	H	M	P	O	Z	N	V	L	N	G
W	V	C	L	Y	F	E	T	J	S	D	M	D	S	P
K	S	R	A	N	A	S	T	A	S	I	O	S	C	E
A	K	B	Y	M	F	I	C	E	T	Y	R	X	H	V
E	A	V	H	T	P	H	I	M	S	E	S	P	O	O
R	P	X	J	L	A	M	H	I	Y	Z	T	I	O	L
S	M	Y	Z	U	E	N	K	L	Q	C	R	E	L	K
D	T	A	D	N	B	Y	I	L	F	M	B	N	J	B
C	J	Q	E	D	L	Z	C	A	N	S	A	L	I	S
H	P	A	A	B	Y	L	I	H	V	U	Q	J	K	C

VENERABLE ANASTASIOS GORDIOS OF EVRYTANIA, GREECE



Do you have a favorite subject in school? Math, reading, science, social studies, something else? Maybe you like them all!

This week we remember a holy man who was just brilliant in school, and everybody knew it! Anastasios lived almost 400 years ago, in Evrytania, Greece (a place with a lot of mountains).

Anastasios studied from the best teachers around, and then he went to the great city of Athens to learn more. He studied about his Orthodox faith, but he also studied medicine and literature too. Then he went to Rome to study math and physics. Anastasios knew there was more to learn, but he decided to go home. At that time, many people in Greece were starting to forget their precious Orthodox faith. That's because they were ruled by the Ottomans, who were not Christians.

Anastasios went back home to the mountains of Greece. He taught many, many students. He taught them about the Orthodox faith, but he also taught them science and medicine, literature, and other subjects too. He was a special teacher for the people. They didn't have a lot of teachers who had studied so much and who knew so much as Anastasios did!

We call him Venerable Anastasios, because the Church has not proclaimed him a saint yet. The people who live in Evrytania call him a saint though because they know what a wonderful and holy and special person he was.

We remember Venerable Anastasios on Monday, June 7th (OC: June 20th).

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

This Thursday is the great feastday of Holy Ascension. On that day, we celebrate how our Lord went to heaven, 40 days after His resurrection!

Do you see the apostles and the Theotokos all looking up into heaven?

