

~::~~ **WHAT MAKES GOD ANGRY?** ~::~~

What was Jesus like? The Gospels portray Him as someone with incredible patience and control. Even in the face of senseless questioning, ridicule and verbal abuse, Christ projected a calm and level demeanor.

There was one incident, however, where Jesus reacted with anger and righteous indignation. While visiting the Temple in Jerusalem during a Passover celebration, our Lord was scandalized to see merchants and vendors doing business on sacred ground. Quickly fashioning a whip of some cords, Jesus overturned their tables and angrily drove them out of the Temple, proclaiming: ***“Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s House a house of merchandise!”*** (John 2:16)

This event gives us some insight into what God DOES NOT want to see in our behavior. Greed and avarice are definitely not Christian qualities and characteristics! Christ’s confrontation with the money changers is one of many times that He expressed His disapproval of those who were driven by material profit and monetary gain. On the contrary, Jesus constantly reminded His followers that it would be meaningless to ***“gain the whole world and still suffer the loss of their own soul.”***

From this Temple incident, we also may draw the conclusion that we incur the wrath of our Heavenly Father when we lose sight of the true purpose and direction the Church should be taking. The Church as a BUILDING must be a place of PRAYER. The Church as an INSTITUTION must always reflect an attitude of prayerful holiness and sanctity as she leads her membership on a spiritual journey. Our ultimate destination is of course, the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS

Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card. We invite you to join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall following the Liturgy.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

HOLY OBLATION BREAD AND MEMORIAL WHEAT

If you are offering Holy Bread, please pick up your portion on top of the chanter stand at the end of Liturgy.

If you are offering Memorial Wheat, please provide (300) 3oz Dixie cups.

Please notify the Church Office by end-of-day Tuesday.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE DUE TUESDAY END-OF-DAY.



*My House shall be called a House of Prayer,
but you have made it a Den of Thieves.*

April 21, 2024

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

5311 Mercer, Houston, Texas 77005 www.stgeorgehouston.com

Church Office admin@stgeorgehouston.com 713-665-5252 p
713-583-8833 f
V. Rev. James Shadid *Pastor* fjshadid@gmail.com 316-209-3605 c
Rev. Mark Makarios *Assistant* mark.makarios@stots.edu 508-685-3498 c
Chris Al-Dehneh *Youth Director* chrisaldehneh@gmail.com 915-539-6901 c

HOLY OBLATION is offered in memory of Aziz Haddad (3 years) and for the health of Michael, Amanda, David and Elaine Araj and for the Araj, Haddad, Bitar and Nasr families.
FR. JAMES is leading a retreat and celebrating Liturgy at Sts. Peter & Paul in Potomac, MD.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Monday (4/22)	6:30p Great Compline
Wednesday (4/24)	6:30p Presanctified Liturgy/Lenten Potluck Dinner
Friday (4/26)	6:30p Little Compline/Canon of St. Lazarus
Saturday (4/27)	10:00a Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday 6:00p Great Vespers
Sunday (4/28)	8:45a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy for Palm Sunday 6:30p First Bridegroom

EVENTS

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday mornings at 10:00a. studying the Gospel of John.
STUDY OF THE LITURGY: With Fr. Mark on Thursday mornings at 10am.
ASK ABOUNA will meditate on Orthodox Spirituality during Lent.
THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: will resume meeting once a month the last Sunday of every month after Ask Abouna at 12:30 PM in the Library. Due to Palm Sunday, this month meeting will be TODAY.
ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS: St. George Ladies Altar society is hosting the annual Mother's Day celebration on Saturday, May 11th at 12pm at the church hall. Tickets are \$50 and \$75. For reservation, please contact Yolla Jabbour at 281-468-2219.
A PARISHIONER is doing a photoethnography project for a class at Rice University. She will be observing and snapping pictures of how space is used while we are having church in the hall. Her project will not be published and will only be viewed by her professor and TAs. All faces will be blurred for additional privacy. For any questions please reach out at jasminebhunter@gmail.com."



PALM SUNDAY HADDOCK FISH FRY: On Sunday 4/28, St Nicholas Men's Group will have its annual Fish Fry. Plates will be sold for \$20.00. All meals are to-go. Tickets can be purchased either by scanning the QR code (please pay in \$20 increments) or in the Hall after Sunday Liturgy. There will be no tickets sales on the day of the event.

A PILGRIMAGE TO ANCIENT GREECE WITH FR. GEORGE DAHDYOUH: August 29 – September 9. You can sign up for the Pilgrimage up until May of next year with some charges. We have 28 seats on the same airplane only. If you have decided to join Fr. George Dahdouh, please send in your registration form asap. For more information call Fr. George or the agency, or pick up a flyer from the church or check out the info in the Monday email.

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITY CENTER

PHASE 1 OF THE FAC PROJECT is moving forward, and our fundraising deadlines are fast approaching. Please help us reach our Phase 1 goal of \$6.5 million by making and fulfilling your FAC contribution today! Pledges and donations can be made on the St. George/FAC website or by scanning the QR code.



FAC TOWN HALL ON MAY 19TH: Do you have any questions, concerns or just looking for additional information? Immediately following services on May 19th, meet us in the hall to get the answers you're looking for. Reach out to Zach Abercia zach.abercia@gmail.com for additional questions.

HOUSTON MED FEST 2024: Save the date (10/26) for this year's Med Fest! Stay tuned on additional information on how you can help make this year a success! Reach out to Rana Abercia rdeeba@gmail.com for additional information.

STEWARDSHIP



2024 PLEDGE STEWARDSHIP "NEW BEGINNINGS": Our 2024 Pledge Campaign is now open, please prayerfully commit to your home of St. George. **Please scan the QR code to the left to submit your 2024 Pledge Commitment.** In an effort to simplify the pledging process, a new system (Tithe.ly) has been implemented.

To donate, give towards your 2024 pledge or to set up recurring payments, scan QR code to the right.



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: is back at Saint George and registration is now open! Scan the QR code to register before May 1st for the early bird price of \$35 per kid (\$40 each after the deadline). Volunteers also need to fill out a form.

LAZARUS SATURDAY PICNIC: 4/27 beginning with Liturgy at 10a followed by our annual picnic, Easter egg hunt, lunch, and petting zoo! To volunteer (chrisaldehneh@gmail.com).

ST. SOPHIA MOMS GROUP MEETING: The next St. Sophia Moms Group meeting will be Friday 5/10, 9:30-11:30 am. RSVP stsophiamoms@gmail.com

COMMEMORATION OF OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

I. *The Antiphons and Psalm verses as in the service book.*

II. *After the Little Entrance, the following are chanted:*

-The troparion of the Resurrection in tone 5:

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

-The troparion of St. Mary of Egypt in tone 8:

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

-The troparion of St. George in tone 4:

As deliverer of captives, and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

- The kontakion of the Theotokos in tone 2:

O undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix, unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions although we be sinners. Come to us in with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

The Epistle

Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation.

Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (9:11-14).

“Brethren: When Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”

The Epistle in Arabic

أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ،

خَلِّصْنِي، يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِيَ.

(9:11-14) فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ

يا اخوة إنَّ المسيحَ إذْ جاءَ رئيسَ كَهَنَةٍ للخيراتِ المستقبَلَةِ فِيمَسْكِنِ اعْظَمَ واكْمَلَ غيرِ مصنوعٍ بِأَيْدِ أَيِّ لَيْسَ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْخَلِيقَةِ * وَلَيْسَ بِدَمِ ثِيُوسٍ وَعُجُولٍ بَلْ بِدَمِ نَفْسِهِ دَخَلَ الْأَقْدَاسَ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً فَوَجَدَ فِدَاءً أَبَدِيًّا * لِأَنَّهُ إِنْ كَانَ دَمُ ثِيرَانٍ وَثِيُوسٍ وَرَمَادُ عَجَلَةٍ يُرْسُ عَلَى الْمُنَجِّسِينَ فَيَقْدَسُهُمْ لِتَطْهِيرِ الْجَسَدِ * فَكَمْ بِالْأَخْرَى دَمُ الْمَسِيحِ الَّذِي بِالرُّوحِ الْأَرْلِيِّ قَرَّبَ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّهِ بِلَا عَيْبٍ يُطَهِّرُ ضَمَائِرَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمَيْتَةِ لِتَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ الْحَيَّ.

The Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (10:32-45).

“At that time, Jesus took His twelve disciples and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, Behold we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and spit upon Him, and scourge Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise.” And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, 'Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You.' And He said to them, 'What do you want Me to do for you?' And they said to Him, 'Grant us to sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?' And they said to Him, 'We are able.' And Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or my left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.' And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, 'You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave for all. For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.’”

The Gospel in Arabic

(10:32-45) فَصَلِّ شَرِيفًا مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَرْقَسِ الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْلِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ أَخَذَ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذَهُ الْإِثْنِي عَشَرَ وَابْتَدَأَ يَقُولُ لَهُمْ مَا سَيَعْرِضُ لَهُ * هَذَا نَحْنُ صَاعِدُونَ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ وَابْنُ الْبَشَرِ سَيُسَلَّمُ إِلَى رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وَالْكَتَبَةِ فَيَحْكُمُونَ عَلَيْهِ بِالْمَوْتِ وَيُسَلِمُونَهُ إِلَى الْأُمَمِ * فَيَهْزَأُونَ بِهِ وَيَبْصُقُونَ عَلَيْهِ وَيَجِدُونَهُ وَيَقْتُلُونَهُ وَفِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّلَاثِ يَقُومُ * فَدَنَا إِلَيْهِ يَعْقُوبُ وَيُوحَنَّا ابْنَا زَبْدَى قَائِلَيْنِ يَا مُعَلِّمُ نُرِيدُ أَنْ تَصْنَعَ لَنَا مَهْمَا طَلَبْنَا * فَقَالَ لَهُمَا مَاذَا تَرِيدَانِ أَنْ أَصْنَعَ لَكُمَا * قَالَا لَهُ أَعْطِنَا أَنْ يَجْلِسَ أَحَدُنَا عَنْ يَمِينِكَ وَالْآخَرُ عَنْ يَسَارِكَ فِي مَجْدِكَ * فَقَالَ لَهُمَا يَسُوعُ إِنَّكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمَانِ مَا تَطْلُبَانِ. أَتَسْتَطِيعَانِ أَنْ تَشْرَبَا الْكَأْسَ الَّتِي أَشْرَبْتُهَا أَنَا وَأَنْ تَصْطَبِعَا بِالصَّبْغَةِ الَّتِي أَصْطَبَعُ بِهَا أَنَا * فَقَالَا لَهُ نَسْتَطِيعُ. فَقَالَ لَهُمَا يَسُوعُ أَمَا الْكَأْسَ الَّتِي أَشْرَبْتُهَا فَتَشْرَبَانِهَا وَبِالصَّبْغَةِ الَّتِي أَصْطَبَعُ بِهَا فَتَصْطَبِعَانِ. وَأَمَا جُلُوسُكُمَا عَنْ يَمِينِي وَعَنْ يَسَارِي فَلَيْسَ لِي أَنْ أَعْطِيَهُ إِلَّا لِلَّذِينَ أَعَدَّ لَهُمْ * فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ الْعَشْرَةَ ابْتَدَأُوا يَغْضَبُونَ عَلَى يَعْقُوبَ وَيُوحَنَّا * فِدَاعِهِمْ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ قَدْ عَلِمْتُمْ أَنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحْسِبُونَ رُؤَسَاءَ الْأُمَمِ يَسُودُونَهُمْ وَعِظْمَاءُهُمْ يَتَسَلَطُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ * وَأَمَا أَنْتُمْ فَلَا يَكُونُ فِيكُمْ هَكَذَا * وَلَكِنْ مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَكُونَ فِيكُمْ كَبِيرًا فَلْيَكُنْ لَكُمْ خَادِمًا * وَمَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَكُونَ فِيكُمْ أَوَّلَ فَلْيَكُنْ لِلْجَمِيعِ عَبْدًا * فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ لَمْ يَأْتِ لِيُخْدَمَ بَلْ لِيُخْدَمَ وَلِيَبْدُلَ نَفْسَهُ فِدَاءً عَنْ كَثِيرِينَ.