

VESPERS - GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY

At Psalm 140

In Tone 1

10. *Lead my soul forth from prison* that I may give thanks to Your name.*

Going freely to His Passion,* the Lord said to His disciples along the way:* Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem,* and the Son of man shall be delivered up, as it is written.* Come, let us purify our thoughts that we may go with Him;* let us be crucified with Him;* in Him we shall die to the pleasures of this life,* that we may live with Him and hear Him say to us:* I am no longer going to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer,* but I am going to My Father and your Father,* to My God and your God;* you shall go with Me to the heavenly Jerusalem* in the Kingdom of Heaven.

9. *The just shall gather around me* when You have been good to me.*

Going freely to His Passion,* the Lord said to His disciples along the way:* Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem,* and the Son of man shall be delivered up, as it is written.* Come, let us purify our thoughts that we may go with Him;* let us be crucified with Him;* in Him we shall die to the pleasures of this life,* that we may live with Him and hear Him say to us:* I am no longer going to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer,* but I am going to My Father and your Father,* to My God and your God;* you shall go with Me to the heavenly Jerusalem* in the Kingdom of Heaven.

In Tone 5

8. *Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord;* O Lord, hear my voice!*

O faithful, let us hasten to the saving Passion of Christ our God;* let us glorify His long-suffering which is beyond expression,* that He may save us from sin and death,* and that He may also raise us in His goodness and love for mankind.

7. *Let Your ears be attentive* to the voice of my prayer.*

O faithful, let us hasten to the saving Passion of Christ our God;* let us glorify His long-suffering which is beyond expression,* that He may save us from sin and death,* and that He may also raise us in His goodness and love for mankind.

6. *If You mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?* But with Your forgiveness is that You may be revered.*

When You were going to Your Passion, O Lord,* You reassured Your disciples by taking them aside and saying:* How can You forget the words I have spoken to you?* The Scriptures say that all the prophets die only in Jerusalem!* Now the time of which I have spoken to you has arrived:* Behold, I shall be delivered into the hands of sinners;* they

shall mock Me and nail Me to the Cross;* and after burying Me, they shall number Me among the dead.* Take courage, however, for I shall rise on the third day,* to bring joy and eternal life to all the faithful.

5. *I have waited for You as You have commanded; my soul patiently relies on Your promise,* for it has trusted in the Lord.*

When You were going to Your Passion, O Lord,* You reassured Your disciples by taking them aside and saying:* How can You forget the words I have spoken to you?* The Scriptures say that all the prophets die only in Jerusalem!* Now the time of which I have spoken to you has arrived:* Behold, I shall be delivered into the hands of sinners;* they shall mock Me and nail Me to the Cross;* and after burying Me, they shall number Me among the dead.* Take courage, however, for I shall rise on the third day,* to bring joy and eternal life to all the faithful.

4. *From the morning watch until night* let Israel trust in the Lord.*

Not understanding the depth of the ineffable mystery of Your plan of salvation,* the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to You, O Lord;* she asked You to grant them the places of honour in a temporal kingdom.* But in place of these honours,* You proclaimed to Your friends that they would drink from the cup of death,* the same cup from which You shall first drink* to cleanse us of our sins.* Therefore, we cry out to You:* O Saviour of our souls, glory to You!

3. *For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him there is plentiful redemption;* and He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.*

Not understanding the depth of the ineffable mystery of Your plan of salvation,* the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to You, O Lord;* she asked You to grant them the places of honour in a temporal kingdom.* But in place of these honours,* You proclaimed to Your friends that they would drink from the cup of death,* the same cup from which You shall first drink* to cleanse us of our sins.* Therefore, we cry out to You:* O Saviour of our souls, glory to You!

2. *Praise the Lord, all the nations;* proclaim His glory, all you people.*

When You taught Your disciples to seek that which is higher,* You said to them, O Lord:* Do not imitate the pagans by lording over those who are weak;* it shall not be that way with you.* For I have chosen to be poor;* so the first among you shall become the servant of the rest;* the one who commands shall be as the one who obeys;* the most noble shall be as the lowest.* For I Myself have come

to serve the poverty of Adam* and to give My life as a ransom for the many* who now sing: O Lord, glory to You!

1. *Strong is the love of the Lord for us; eternally will His truth endure.*

When You taught Your disciples to seek that which is higher,* You said to them, O Lord:* Do not imitate the pagans by lording over those who are weak;* it shall not be that way with you.* For I have chosen to be poor;* so the first among you shall become the servant of the rest;* the one who commands shall be as the one who obeys;* the most noble shall be as the lowest.* For I Myself have come to serve the poverty of Adam* and to give My life as a ransom for the many* who now sing: O Lord, glory to You!

In Tone 8, Glory...

O faithful, let us fear the punishment of the fig tree* which was dried up for not having borne any fruit;* let us offer worthy fruits of repentance to Christ,* who grants us His great mercy.

Now...

The Serpent thought he found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman,* who tried to make Joseph succumb to her words of flattery.* But he avoided sinning;* he left his garment behind, but was not ashamed of his nudity,* as were our first parents after their disobedience.* Through his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us.

Prokeimenon I, Tone 6

May the Lord bless you from Sion,* and may you see prosperity of Jerusalem.

Verse: Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who walk in His ways.

Reading I

Exodus 1:1-20

Prokeimenon II, Tone 8

We bless you* in the name of the Lord.

Verse: "They have oppressed me from my youth," this is the song of Israel.

Reading II

Job 1:1-12

Gospel

Matthew 24:3-35

Aposticha

Tone 6: Come, you faithful, and let us serve the Master eagerly,* for He gives riches to His servants.* Each of us according to the measure that we have received,* let us increase the talent of grace.* Let one gain wisdom through good deeds;* let another celebrated the Liturgy with beauty;* let another share his faith by preaching to the

uninstructed;* let another give his wealth to the poor.* So shall we increase what is entrusted to us,* and as faithful stewards of His grace we shall be counted worthy of the Master's joy.* Bestow this joy upon us, Christ our God, in Your love for mankind.

Verse: I have lifted up my eyes...

When You shall come, O Jesus, in glory with the angelic hosts* and shall sit upon the throne of judgment,* do not send me from Your presence, O good Shepherd.* You accept those who stand upon the right,* but those upon the left have turned away from You.* Destroy me not with the goats,* though I am hardened in sin,* but number me with the sheep on Your right hand,* and save me in Your love for mankind.

Verse: Have mercy on us, O Lord...

O Bridegroom, surpassing all in beauty,* You have called us to the spiritual feast of Your bridal chamber.* Strip from me the disfigurement of sin,* through participation in Your sufferings;* clothe me in the glorious robe of Your beauty,* and in Your compassion make me feast with joy at Your kingdom.

Glory be... Now...

Tone 7: Behold, my soul, the Master entrusts you with a talent.* Receive His gift with fear;* make it gain interest for Him;* distribute to the needy, and make the Lord your friend.* So shall you stand on His right hand when He comes in glory,* and you shall hear His blessed words:* 'Enter, servant, into the joy of your Lord.'* I have gone astray, O Saviour,* but in Your great mercy count me worthy of this joy.