

## For Our Sakes the Lord Rebuked the Devil

For the Lord was working with Antony, the Lord who for our sake took flesh and gave the body victory over the devil, so that all who truly fight can say “not I but the grace of God which was with me.” (1Cor 15:10). But the Lord did not suffer us to be deceived by the devil, for He rebuked him whenever he framed such delusions against Him, saying: “*Get behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve*” (Mt 4:10). More and more, therefore, let the deceiver be despised by us; for what the Lord hath said, this for our sakes He hath done: that the demons hearing like words from us may be put to flight through the Lord who rebuked them in those words.

*Life of Antony, 5,37*

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*ἐκ τοῦ ἁγίου Ἀθανασίου*

Συνήργει γὰρ ὁ Κύριος αὐτῶ, ὁ σάρκα δι' ἡμᾶς φορέσας, καὶ τῶ σώματι δούς τὴν κατὰ τοῦ διαβόλου νίκη· ὥστε τῶν ὄντως ἀγωνιζομένων ἕκαστον λέγειν· Οὐκ ἐγὼ δὲ, ἀλλ' ἡ χάρις τοῦ Θεοῦ ἢ σὺν ἐμοί. ... Ἡμᾶς δὲ οὐκ ἀφήκεν ὁ Κύριος ἀπατηθῆναι παρὰ τοῦ διαβόλου, ὅπηνίκα τὰς τοιαύτας αὐτῶ ποιοῦντι φαντασίας ἐπιτιμῶν εἴρηκεν· Ὑπαγε ὀπίσω μου, Σατανᾶ· γέγραπται γάρ· Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου προσ-κυνήσεις, καὶ αὐτῶ μόνῳ λατρεύσεις. Μᾶλλον οὖν καὶ μᾶλλον ὁ πανοῦργος διὰ ταῦτα καταφρονεῖσθω παρ' ἡμῶν· ὁ γὰρ εἴρηκεν ὁ Κύριος, τοῦτο ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πεποίηκεν· ἵνα καὶ παρ' ἡμῶν ἀκούοντες οἱ δαίμονες τὰς τοιαύτας φωνὰς ἀνα-τρέπωνται διὰ τὸν Κύριον, τὸν ἐν ταύταις αὐτοῖς ἐπιτιμήσαντα.

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