



**Joyful
Pentecostarion**
The Journey Continues
amidst the Light of the Resurrection
towards the Glory of the Last Times



■ † Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

**Not a superficial relationship with the Lord
but inward union with Him***

The Samaritan woman's compatriots, after two days with the Savior in their midst, said to her: “Now we believe, not because of thy saying; for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world” (St. John 4:42).

It happens this way with everyone. At first they are called to the Lord by an external word, or many simply by birth. But when they taste in practice what it is to live in the Lord, they no longer cleave to the Lord through their external affiliation with Christian society, but through their inner union with Him.

It is necessary for all who are born in Christian societies to make this a law for themselves; that is, not to confine themselves to a merely superficial relationship with the Lord, but to seek to unite with Him inwardly, that they may always bear witness within themselves that they are standing in the truth.

Why is this necessary?



It is necessary, that we might embody within ourselves the truth of Christ.

The truth of Christ is a restoration of what is fallen. Thus, put off the old man, which is “corrupt according to deceitful lusts,” and “put on

the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” (cf. Ephesians 4:22-24). And thus you will know within yourself that the Lord Jesus Christ is in truth the Savior—not only of the world, but also for you personally.



(*) St. Theophan the Recluse, *Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God*.