



A MYSTICAL PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

by St. Symeon the New Theologian

**Come, O true light!
Come, O eternal life!
Come, O hidden mystery!
Come, O indescribable treasure!
Come, O ineffable thing!
Come, O inconceivable person!
Come, O endless delight!
Come, O unsetting light!
Come, O true and fervent expectation of all those who will be saved!
Come, O rising of those who lie down!
Come, O resurrection of the dead!
Come, O powerful one,
who dost always create and recreate and transform by Thy will alone!**

Come, O invisible and totally intangible and untouchable!
Come, O Thou who always remainest immobile
and at each moment movest all, and comest to us, who lie in hades,
Thou Who art above all heavens.
Come O desirable and legendary name,
which is completely impossible for us to express what Thou art or to know Thy
nature. Come, O eternal joy!
Come, O unwithering wreath!
Come, O purple of the great king our God!
Come, O crystalline cincture, studded with precious stones!
Come, O inaccessible sandal!
Come, O royal robe and truly imperial right hand!
Come, Thou whom my wretched soul has desired and does desire!
Come, Thou who alone goest to the lonely for as Thou seest I am lonely!
Come, Thou who hast separated me from everything and made me solitary in
this world!
Come, Thou who hast become Thyself desire in me,
Thou hast made me desire Thee, the absolutely inaccessible one!
Come, O my breath and life!
Come, O consolation of my humble soul!
Come, O my joy, my glory, and my endless delight!
I thank Thee that Thou hast become one spirit with me,
without confusion, without mutation, without transformation,
Thou the God of all; and that Thou hast become everything for me,
inexpressible and perfectly gratuitous nourishment,
which ever flows to the lips of my soul and gushes out into the fountain of my
heart, dazzling garment which burns the demons,
purification which bathes me
with these imperishable and holy tears,
that Thy presence brings to those whom Thou visitest.
I give Thee thanks
that for me Thou hast become unsetting light and non-declining sun;
for Thou who fillest the universe with Thy glory
hast nowhere to hide Thyself.
No, Thou hast never hidden Thyself from anyone
but we are the ones who always hide from Thee, by refusing to go to Thee;
but then, where wouldest Thou hide,
Thou who dost nowhere find the place of Thy repose?
Why wouldest Thou hide,
Thou who dost not turn away from a single creature,
who dost not reject a single one?
Today, then, O Master, come pitch Thy tent with me;
until the end, make Thy home and live continually, inseparably
within me, Thy slave,
O most-kind one,

that I also may find myself again in Thee,
at my departure from this world
and after my departure may I reign with Thee,
O God who art above everything.
O Master, stay and do not leave me alone,
so that my enemies, arriving unexpectedly,
they who are always seeking to devour my soul,
may find Thee living within me and that they may take flight,
in defeat, powerless against me,
seeing Thee, O more powerful than everything,
installed interiorly in the home of my poor soul.
Yea, O Master, just as Thou didst remember me,
when I was in the world and,
in the midst of my ignorance,
Thou chocest me and separatedst me from this world
and set me before Thy glorious face,
so now keep me interiorly,
by Thy dwelling within me, forever upright, resolute;
that by perpetually seeing Thee,
I, the corpse, may live;
that by possessing Thee,
I, the beggar, may always be rich, richer than kings;
that by eating Thee and by drinking Thee,
by putting Thee on at each moment,
I go from delight to delight in inexpressible blessings;
for it is Thou, who art all good and all glory and all delight
and it is to Thee,
O holy, consubstantial, and life-creating Trinity
that the glory belongeth,
Thou whom all the faithful venerate, confess, adore and serve
in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.