17 Οκτωβρίου 2009

The Elder Joseph the Hesychast (+1959)

Str

Ξένες



Continued from (10)

Although they stayed in their hut more than before, they did go out from time to time in the summer to various places of stillness, and would carry on their struggle in the peaceful environment they had chosen, which was suited for such a purpose. On one occasion they went to the kathisma of St Gregory Palamas above the Great Lavra, where there is a little church, and there is a tradition that at one time the saint stayed there to find stillness, when he was in the region of the Lavra. It was late afternoon when they went, and they intended to stay a week or so, because the Elder felt very much at ease in that place. In the evening, when they had rested and begun their vigil praying alone, as they always did, the demons began causing a disturbance and then shouting, 'You've burnt us, you've burnt us! Go away, go away from here!', and they cursed in a crude and wicked manner. This time Father Arsenios heard them too, and was frightened. He ran to the Elder and asked him, 'Why are they shouting like that, Elder? Who are they?' The Elder reassured him and told him, 'They are temptations.

Read more… (περισσότερα…)