

## In a Single Moment - Paradise



April 11, 2010 by father stephen

Pascha and Bright Week always remind me of the joy of paradise. The doors of the altar stand open for all of Bright Week, reminding the people of God that Christ has opened paradise to us all. These are some thoughts on the suddenness and nearness of paradise. As the Elder Cleopas used to say, "May Paradise consume you!"

The Exapostelarian for the Matins of Good Friday is the hymn, "The Wise Thief." It draws our attention to the mercy of God – who promised paradise to the wise thief, "This day." Thoughts on the nearness of paradise are also a theme in the writings of Dostoevsky. If paradise is so near – why do we settle for less? ([περισσότερα...](#))