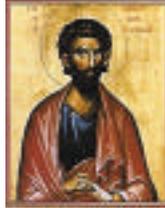


# October 9

E. ☩ *Holy Apostle James Alphaeus.*



He was the son of a Capernaum tax collector Alphaeus and the brother of the Holy Apostle Matthew. Like Matthew, James was called by the Lord to be among the twelve apostles (Mt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15) and together with the rest was sent to preach (Mt. 10:3). After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle James at first remained in Jerusalem (Acts 1:13; 6:2). Later he accompanied the Apostle Andrew the First Called to Edessa, preached the doctrine of Christ in Gaza, Eleutheropolis (Beth Gibran) and neighboring places, from there he was led to Egypt and here again in the city of Ostrazin (seaside city on the border with Palestine) sealed his apostolic work with the martyr's death on the cross.

According to the words of the Holy Church, St. James enlightened "the universe with the knowledge of God" and drove away "the darkness of polytheism with Divine sermons", destroyed "the temples of the idols", "with fiery tongues" burned up "the ungodly wisdom of the world like thorns", withering up "the evil slime of polytheism", and showed "invincible authority and power over demons".

*Kontakion, tone 2*

**He firmly instilled wise doctrines in pious souls,  
So let us all bless James with praise as the messenger of God:  
For standing before the throne of glory of the Master,  
He rejoices with all the angels, //  
Pray unceasing for us all.**

**Paramoegas: Matins** Gospel and Epistle see October 6. **Gospel:** see Oct. 1. Apostle Ananias.

*Our Venerable Father Andronicus, and His Wife Athanasia*

Born in Antioch, where they, united "with spiritual love" and protected "by the complete armor of the cross", carried out a pious life, distinguished by acts of mercy. After the death of their children, both spouses accepted monasticism. The

Venerable Andronicus became the disciple of Abba Daniel in one of the Egyptian monasteries, and St. Athanasia entered the monastic settlement of Tabenna. After 12 years of ascetic struggles both spouses met on the way to the holy places, but St. Andronicus did not recognize the Venerable Athanasia, dressed as a monk. Both monks agreed to practice asceticism together and were not separated until their death (at the beginning of the fifth century). Only upon the death of the Venerable Athanasia did her spouse find out her secret. The Venerable Andronicus died within seven days of the death of his spouse.

**The Service for the Venerable Andronicus is sung at Grand Compline.**

*Venerable Peter of Galatia*

First he served in the army of Emperor Theophilus and he was awarded various military honors for valor from the latter. But then he accepted monasticism in the monastery of Daphne. After long charitable ascetical efforts he peacefully died in the Monastery of St. Phocas, during the reign of Emperor Basil in the ninth century.

*Holy Righteous Forefather Abraham and Lot his Nephew*

They lived 2000 years before the Nativity of Christ. St. Abraham, the 11th patriarch after the flood (counting from Shem), was the son of Terah. In the 75th year of his life he left Mesopotamia, and settled in the land of Canaan with all his family and nephew Lot. Here Abraham and Lot separated and Lot first settled in Sodom, where the Lord wonderfully delivered him, and then in the city of Zoar (Sigor). St. Abraham died at 175 years of age.

*Martyrs Juventinus and Maximus. See September 5.*

*St. Publia, Confessor and Deaconess of the Antiochian Church*

Born in Antioch, she became a deaconess after the death of her husband. She gathered virgins and widows around herself who similarly decided to devote their life to the Lord with her, and founded a pious monastery. St. Publia suffered for Christ by the Emperor Julian the Apostate. For singing psalms while the emperor passed the prayer house of the monastery, St. Publia, who was leading the choir, was severely beaten on the cheeks and died soon after this.

*Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos of Chersonese*

This wonder-working icon in 988 was brought from Chersonese to Kiev, later to Novgorod and finally to Moscow where it is now in the Dormition Cathedral.

*Stephen the New or the Tall, the Son of the Tsar Lazarus. See July 19.*

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0370-1  
Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris © January 7, 2004. All rights reserved.*