

A PRAYER BY ELDER EPHRAIM

My sweetest Jesus, You sacrificed Yourself for us sinful ones. You spilled your Immaculate Blood. You washed our wounds and brightened the garment of our souls through Your own death. Mortify our passions, and also slay the devil, who continuously stalks us, following us day and night.

Son of God, send us Your help from Heaven, from Your throne of glory upon which You were seated after Your triumphant victory over the devil.

We confess the Grace You have given us; we confess the salvation You have granted us. We unquestionably believe in Your Divinity. We proclaim before all visible and invisible creation that You are the Son and Word of God Who incarnated in order to save us. You are the Only Holy One Who rests upon Your saints. You are the God of love. Our weak mind is incapable of apprehending Your infinite Nous. As an admirable general You vanquished the enemy Amalek, and You freed us like a doe that had been caught in a trap. We acknowledge Your labors, Your pain, Your sweat, and the Cross You endured for us.

Jesus, Son and Word of the Living God, Good Shepherd, You led Your sheep to the pen of salvation. Accept our poor words, our small supplication, and our humble confession; receive them as incense rising before You. Continue, O Lord, in Your infinite compassion, bringing to completion Your beautifully redemptive, magnificent, and multifarious work. You have been glorified wondrously and beyond measure, imperceptibly working out our salvation.

We thank you with all our soul. Accept our impoverished gratitude like the two mites of the poor widow, who offered You everything she had. We too offer whatever we possess. Truly, what can You possibly receive from a poor pauper?

We thank you O Lord. Deem us worthy of worshipping You with our entire being the moment You decide to take our soul, when You command us to come toward You, and on the great and glorious day when the souls of the righteous will shine as they become filled with the endless and unlimited light of Your divine face. Accept the supplications of Your Most-Pure Mother and all Your Saints on our behalf. Amen.