

# **OUR PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO BECOME HOLY**

**—by Saint Nektarios—**

Our purpose in life is to become perfect and holy. It is to become children of God and to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us be careful, lest we are deprived of the future life due to this present life; lest we disregard the purpose of our life due to worldly cares and concerns.

Fasting, vigil, and prayer on their own are incapable of giving rise to the desired fruits of virtue, because they are not in themselves our goal in life; rather, they are the means for us to attain the goal.

Decorate your vigil lamps with virtues. Struggle to expel the passions from your soul. Purge your heart of every filth and preserve it in purity so that the Lord may come and dwell within you, and so that the Holy Spirit may fill you with His divine gifts.

My beloved children, these should be your entire concern and preoccupation. These should comprise your ceaseless purpose and desire. This is what you should pray for to God.

Seek the Lord daily; but seek Him within your heart, not outside of your heart. And when you find Him, stand before Him in fear and awe, just as the Cherubim and Seraphim do, because your heart has become the throne of God. In order to find the Lord, however, humble yourselves to the ground, because the Lord detests the proud, whereas He loves and visits them who possess a humble heart.