



# ARCHANGEL MICHAEL

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate  
Archangel Michael Church  
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“**9** And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:  
**10** And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him. **11** And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? **12** How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days. **13** Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.  
**14** Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him. **15** But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;  
**16** And charged them that they should not make him known:  
**17** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, **18** Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. **19** He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. **20** A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. **21** And in his name shall the Gentiles trust. **22** Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. **23** And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?. ”

( Matt 12: 9-23)

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**The committee welcomes your participation in the form of articles, reviews, news or comments. Please mail your articles, comments...etc. to the church or e-mail them to [newsletter@archangelmichaelchurch.net](mailto:newsletter@archangelmichaelchurch.net)**

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From:  
**Experiences In life**

By: *His Holiness Pope  
Shenouda III*

### **A wise Observation**

A person had just taken over office at a senior position, and I saw that he had hung on the wall above his desk a sign which said: **“Others were here before me and others**

**will come after me.”**

### **The Eye and the Eyebrow**

Some one said about himself in a humble manner, “The eye is

not above the eyebrow”, and so I answered him:

**“Nevertheless ,the eye is of so much more importance that you cannot compare the two.”** The eye is the source of sight and is of great usefulness, but the eyebrow is only for decoration even though it is **above** the eye. I have given a similar reply when it has been said to me that the crown is above the head.

### **Advice to a Appropriate Time:**

If you want your words to have their full effect, choose the appropriate time to say them. Put before you the words of the wise man who said: ***“A word fitly spoken [is] [like] apples of gold In settings of silver.”(Prov 25:11)*** If there is a matter which you are concerned about, do not speak about it to anyone who is busy or tired, or who needs a rest or is not in the mood to talk. Do not speak to anyone about it either if he is annoyed or sad about something.

**Speak when the ear is ready to listen to your words, and more preferable when it is eager to listen to you.** An exception to this is a word of reprimand, like that spoken by John the Baptist to Herod. The important thing to keep before you is that you say **your word when it finds an ear ready to listen.**

## **Silence**

Sometimes silence is more effective than words and more beneficial and useful, or at the very least it may be less harmful than to speak... In silence there may be wisdom and strength, there may be nobility and dignity.

**Sometimes we keep silent in order that God should speak, for the word of God is more powerful than anything we might want to say...** How beautiful are the words of the Bible, *"The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace"* (Ex 14:14) Our Lord Jesus Christ remained silent before Pilate. He did not open His mouth or defend Himself. During His silence Pilate said, "I find no reason to condemn this righteous man". Silence can be profitable sometimes, but it is not a fixed rule.

**The golden rule is this, that the person should speak when it is right to speak and keep silent when it is right to keep silent.**

When he is silent then let his heart speak with God and ask Him to speak on his behalf...

## **Side Issues**

**There may be a person who speaks to you on some subject or other, but who cannot concentrate on it and in fact digresses to numerous related issues.**

You try to get him to stick to the subject, but you can't because he just keeps on branching out into endless side issues.

**You may enter into a discussion on a point of doctrine with someone,** but he departs from it to other points.

Whenever you reply to one he digresses to another, and it is as if you are in front of a vast open forum of discussion and out engaged in discussing a definite point !

**A person may sit down with you to tell you off concerning some problem between you, but whilst doing so he touches on side issues which make the original problem look small.** And these additional criticisms leave pain in the soul which in turn needs to be set at rest!

People need to concentrate on what they are saying, and not go rambling freely on minor issues. The same also applies to writing, making reports and preaching...

**Quite often people gather together to talk without**

**having a fixed topic for their conversation, so their talking tends to be just haphazard, on side issues or endless secondary matters which are not connected...!**

### **Easy and Difficult**

Everybody can shout, can be abusive and belittle others and be harsh in his judgments of people. This is something easy which everyone can do. It does not prove any particular strength... But the hard thing is for the person to restrain his tongue and control his feelings and nerves, and be well-mannered choosing his words with care, whatever he feels.

**So here the one who is insulted but in command of himself, is actually stronger than the one who is abusing him who has lost control of his nerves.**

Talking about ideals is easy, anyone can do it. Likewise, admiring high ideals is something we hear about from everybody.

**But living with such ideals is not possible for all, not even for those who are called to it and who encourage others to it.**

High ideals require a pure heart, a will and determination in the individual to work hard for their sake and suffer in order to achieve them. when a person is raised on the cross because of his ideals, then he is being a true idealist.

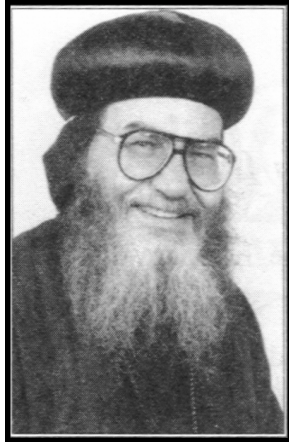
## Martyrdom of St. Luke the Evangelist



On the twenty second day of the blessed month of Babah, St. Luke the Evangelist and physician, was martyred. He was one of the 70 disciples mentioned in the tenth chapter of his gospel. He accompanied the Apostles Peter and Paul and wrote their account. After the martyrdom of these two Apostles, he went through Rome preaching. Those who worshipped idols and the Jews in Rome agreed among themselves and went to Nero the Emperor accusing St. Luke of attracting many men to his teaching with his sorcery. Nero commanded that St. Luke be brought before him.

When St. Luke knew that, he gave all the books he had to a fisherman and told him, Take these and keep them for they will be useful to you and will show you God's way. When St. Luke came before Nero the Emperor, the Emperor asked him, How long will you lead the people astray? St. Luke replied, I am not a magician, but I am an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. The Emperor commanded his men to cut off his right hand saying, Cut off this hand which wrote the books. The saint replied to him, We do not fear death, nor the departure from this world, and to realize the power of my Master. He took up his severed hand and made it reattach to its proper place, then he separated it. Those who were present marvelled and the head of the Emperor's cabinet and his wife believed as well as many others and it was said that they numbered 276. The Emperor wrote their decree and ordered that their heads be cut off together with that of the Apostle St. Luke; thus their martyrdom was completed. They placed the body of the saint in a hair sack and cast it in the sea. By God's will, the waves of the sea brought it to an island. A believer found it, took it and buried it with great honor. This saint wrote the Gospel bearing his name and the Acts of the Apostles addressing his words to his disciple Theophilus who was a gentile.

May his prayers and blessings be with us all, and Glory be to God forever. Amen



## **Coptic youth ask His Grace Bishop Moussa**

*“ From the youth Bishopric web site”*

**Question:** *What is the purpose of getting married?*

**His Grace Bishop Moussa Answers:** In our church, marriage differs from any other kind of marriage, be it civil or otherwise, because we believe it to be a holy sacrament. Marriage, in our church, has five important goals: 1. Love - in a Christian marriage you are going to experience 'agape' love which is the holy, spiritual love baptised by the Holy Spirit. It is a sacrificial love which unites the two partners through the Holy Spirit. 2. Co-operation - in marriage the couples must co-operate with each other in all aspects of life. When you share joy with your partner, your joy will be multiplied, and when you share sorrow with your partner, your suffering will be divided. 3. Salvation - marriage enables the partners to satisfy their sexual instincts and instincts for parenthood in a holy, pure way, and for this reason marriage helps them in the salvation process. 4. Children - children are the fruit of marriage and are essential for the continuation of the human race. 5. Increasing the Number of Saints - when these children are brought up in the fear and love of God, they will be saints, not only in the church on earth, but also in the kingdom of heaven.

**Question:** *In the Bible, what is the meaning of the married couple being referred to as, "the two will become one (Matt. 19:5)?"*

**His Grace Bishop Moussa Answers:** In Christianity, marriage results in the couple becoming one in many aspects : physically, through the union of their bodies, spiritually, mentally, and psychologically. And it is this oneness which the Lord refers to.

**Question:** *How can there be understanding between two partners?*

**His Grace Bishop Moussa Answers:** Understanding comes through having a spiritual home, and by praying together. It is also important to have a spirit of love and humility and self sacrifice, when dealing with each other, and always have the Lord abiding between you.

## Coptic Month of Kiahk



The Advent Fast begins on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Hatour (November 25 or 26) and ends on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Kiahk (January 7), the Feast of Nativity. This 43-day fast commemorates two events. First, just as Moses spent Forty days on Mount Sinai preparing to receive the commandments, the Church also fasts in order to prepare for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Second, three days commemorate the fasting and prayer of the believers before the

miracle of the moving of the Muqattam Mountain. Although Advent begins in the Coptic Month of Hatour, the hymns presented here are chanted from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Kiahk (December 10 or 11) up to the Paramoune of the Nativity.

If there are only three Sundays in the month of Kiahk preceding the Paramoune of the Nativity, then the last Sunday of the Coptic Month of Hatour is borrowed, and the readings of the First Sunday of Kiahk are read on this day.

From *COPTIC HYMNS: A Book of Hymns for All Occasions of the Coptic Year*; Edited and Compiled by Anthony Aboseif, Published and distributed by Saint Antonius Coptic Orthodox Church. Pg 173





# BIBLE STUDY

## The Third Epistle of Saint Jude

By: Christine Michael

The letter of Saint Jude is one of the books of the Bible that speaks to its audience as strong as it did when it had originally been written. It stands so strong against the heretics from the truth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Although Saint Jude stressed the dangers of false teachings, the strength of the letter is its focus on the faith, the believers, and God – not heretics. In doing so, he merely points out they will be under the condemnation of God and calls the readers of the letter to defend the faith and grow in God's grace.

Saint Jude, the brother of the Lord and of James is said to be the author of this epistle. Because it is so difficult to assign an exact date for the writing of the letter, the dates that are most accurate are to be between 60-64 AD. It was most probably written before 70AD, the fall of Jerusalem because that issue would have been discussed in the letter.

In comparing the two letters, many people have noticed the similarities between the letters of Saint Peter and Saint Jude. They both seem to have the same type of vocabulary and both discuss the issues concerning false teachers of the church. However, Saint Jude, although he describes the problem in the past, many scholars believe that Jude had written his letter prior to Saint Peter because of its precise language. Therefore, many people say Saint Peter borrowed from Jude, however, it is not completely certain.

The basic structure of the epistle is very common to the letters written at that time period. In the beginning, the author introduces his name, the recipients of the letter, and the wish that they are all doing well. However, Saint Jude's letter is distinguished from the rest of the New Testament epistles in that he is very straightforward in the very beginning of the letter. He quickly gets to the point, putting down error and judgment, while encouraging holiness. In his poetic imagery style of writing, he groups together his ideas in threes. Through his letter, he discusses: mercy, peace, and love, three illustrations of false teaching and judgment, three examples of rebellion, and the call of Christians to be alert of heretics.

*"From The Nelson study Bible: Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville"*

**For whosoever shall do the will of my Father  
which is in heaven, the same is my brother,  
and sister, and mother**

(Matt 12:50)

## **COPTIC FEASTS**

November 4  
Departure of St. Apolo and  
St. Abib  
November 14  
The 31 th Anniversary of  
the Enthronement of Pope  
Shenouda III  
November 24  
Martyrdom of St. Mina the  
Miraculous.  
November 25  
Beginning of the Advent  
(Holy Nativity fast)

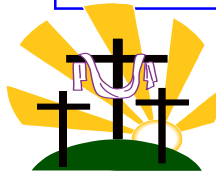
## **CHURCH SERVICES**

### **Fridays**

-7:30 PM-8:30 PM  
Hymms Lesson  
-8:30PM-10:00PM  
Arabic Bible Study  
Arabic Prayer Meeting  
-8:30PM-11:00PM  
Midnight Praises  
Midnight Prayers

### **SATURDAYS**

-8:00AM-11:30AM:  
Divine Liturgy  
-12:00AM-1:00PM:  
Sunday School &  
Youth group meeting



*Please do not forget to pray to the Lord  
that He may heal the sick  
and  
repose the souls of those who have passed away in the  
paradise of joy.*