

THE 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH OF JULY
COMMEMORATION OF
THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIJAH

AT GREAT VESPERS

We chant "Blessed is the man...", the first antiphon.

At "Lord, I have cried...", in Tone I:

O compassionate Word Who translated Elijah the Tishbite from the earth in a fiery chariot: by his supplication save us that glorify Thee in faith and celebrate his divine and salvific memory.

In the earthquake and the gentle breeze thou didst perceive the coming of God which of old enlightened thee, O divinely blessed Elijah; and, seated in a chariot drawn by four steeds, amazed thou didst traverse the sky in a strange manner, O divinely inspired one.

And these stichera, in Tone II: the composition of John the Archbishop—

Two beacons have shone forth upon the world: the most radiant Elijah and Elisha! The one by the word of God shut up the drops of the rains of the sky, denounced the king, and was upborne to the heavens on a fiery chariot; the other cured bitter waters and, having received a double measure of grace, parted the Jordan's streams. And now, joining chorus with the angels, they pray for us, that our souls be saved.

The fiery chariot which caught thee up to the heavens on the air as in an earthquake, bestowed upon thee the fiery grace of miracles, O Elijah the Tishbite, rendering thee incorrupt, that thou not see death until thou hadst proclaimed the end to all. Wherefore, come thou, granting us the instruction of thy worthy deeds.

Glory..., in Tone VI: the composition of the Byzantine—

Come, ye assemblage of the Orthodox, and, gathering together in the most honored temple of the divinely eloquent prophets today, with psalmody let us chant an harmonious hymn unto Christ our God Who hath glorified them; and with joy and gladness let us cry out: Rejoice, O Elijah of great renown, earthly angel and heavenly man! Rejoice, O most honored Elisha, who received from God a double

measure of grace! Rejoice, ye fervent helpers, intercessors and physicians of the souls and bodies of Christ-loving people! From every hostile attack and evil circumstance, deliver them that with faith celebrate your most festive memory!

Entrance. Prokimenon of the Day.
Three Lessons:

At the Aposticha,

Glory..., in Tone VI—

O prophet, preacher of Christ, thou dost never depart from the Throne of Majesty, and ever intercedest for every one afflicted with sickness. Ministering in the Highest, glorified in all places, thou dost bless the whole world. Ask thou for cleansing for our souls.

Troparion, in Tone IV—

The angel in the flesh, the foundation of the prophets, the second forerunner of the Coming of Christ, the glorious Elijah from on High sent down grace upon Elisha to dispel infirmities and to cleanse lepers. Wherefore, he poureth forth healings upon them that honor him.

Aug. 2nd
for vespers