

New book—

Two Elders on The Jesus Prayer

The purpose of this work is to introduce the reading audience to two ascetics of the twentieth century: **Elder Joseph the Hesychast of the Holy Mountain** and **Archbishop Anthony (Golynsky-Mihailovsky) of Russia**. The text of Archbishop Anthony, however, has not been published in English before; therefore, we will more greatly emphasize both him and his theological work. We attempted to preserve the style of **Vladika Anthony** in our translation. Archbishop Anthony wrote his notes to close disciples either living a strict monastic life in the world or approaching this stage of life in their personal spiritual journeys. His cell notes were not written for publication originally. **Vladika Anthony** jotted them down in an atmosphere of increasing persecution against the Church. His task was an urgent one for people who had no access to either the Church, the legacy of the Holy Fathers, elders and monastics, or monasteries and Holy Tradition. Material necessity dominated their concerns; **Vladika Anthony** reminded them of first things.

"**Two Elders on the Jesus Prayer**" is a serious examination and comparison of both elders on this subject, but with particular reference to **Archbishop Golinsky**, the lesser-known of the two men. **Vladika Anthony** is being introduced here for the first time to an English language audience. A translation from the Russian of his valuable text based upon Vladika's cell notes is provided here in English for the first time!

Most Westerners first discovered the Jesus Prayer through translations of "**The Way of the Pilgrim**" more than half a century ago (1952). Since then, a few other texts have been added to this subject in English, notably (from the Russian) "**On the Prayer of Jesus**" by **St. Bishop Ignatius Brianchaninov** and (from the Greek) "**A Night in the Desert of the Holy Mountain**" by **Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos**, and others. Because **Archbishop Anthony's** text assumes that the reader is a complete novice, other beginners will find this volume helpful. Each of the stages or degrees of Prayer are outlined and compared to the teachings of **Elder Joseph the Hesychast**, making this an invaluable benefaction for one who seeks to grow in prayer.

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