

The Feast of Annunciation

(2017)

God always has special projects to carry out in His Kingdom and He delights in allowing mankind to partake of such projects. At any given time and in the midst of any given phase, He consistently has specific plans to fulfill and thus is invariably searching for a person or group that can bring such plans to fruition. At a certain point, He was in need of Abraham as He was seeking a person who can bring forth the new offspring after the flood. God, at first, was waiting for such a man. When Abraham then came about, God spoke to him that he may know and accomplish this particular portion of His economy. Another time, God had need of Israel as a nation to execute an important commission. And in the fullness of time, God was in need of a woman to give humanity to His Son. He found the Virgin Mary and announced to her through the angel that she has been chosen. This divine mentality and economy is continuously ongoing. This proves true for our days and generation as well. God has matters to accomplish, albeit not wholly known by us. And as before, He searches for specific people who can actualize His important matters for this generation. When a well-prepared person whose heart is in accordance with God's own heart is then found, he or she is sent an angel in one form or another. It does not have to be in a tangible or visible manner, although this too can occur. It can come in a form of a conversation within the heart, which the soul is aware of. If this soul is well prepared, it has the ability to also become aware of a type of heart connection with the angels of God. After accepting the specific commission, the angel accompanies the person until he or she complete the purposes and matters of God announced to them.

Of course, St. Macarius the Great is a clear example of this. After the completion of salvation and Incarnation of Christ, God wanted to do something within this wilderness in the desert of Egypt. He awaited the suitable person and found St. Macarius. A cherub was then sent to St. Macarius to accompany him until he completed his mission throughout his life. This cherub even continued to guard the monastery after the passing of St. Macarius as indicated by the story of the main altar consecration. After the passing of the saint, Pope Benjamin went to the monastery to consecrate the main altar. While doing so, he and the monks noticed a person present who was illuminating brightly. The monks did not know who it was whereas the Patriarch figured that he was a pious monk and wanted to ordain him a bishop over any one of the dioceses with a vacancy for the position. The cherub, however, notified the Patriarch that it was St. Macarius, the father of the wilderness, who was present and the three of them proceeded to discuss the current spiritual situation of the monks of the monastery.

Our days are also in need for inspirations of the Kingdom. God is seeking those whom He can send on a *mission*. These are the missions necessary to complete the divine purposes of the Kingdom for this generation. Are we well prepared? Is He able to find people who are prepared and can be chosen to complete these commissions? Can He send out the angels that can help carry out these commissions? Let us ponder this festal message of God.

All the glory be to God, amen.