

DEADLY PASSIONS IN THE LIFE OF CHRISTIANS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY ACCORDING TO ISIDORE OF PELUSIUM AND THEODORE STOUDITES

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Abstract

Adam and Eve served their passion of gastrimargy and their ambition to become gods without the grace of God. The result was their exile from Paradise and death. The incarnation of Logos, His crucifixion, His death on the cross and His resurrection gave a second chance of man's salvation. Unfortunately, people do not put into practice this gift of their reconciliation to God. In this paper, we will compare the opinion of two important Church Fathers, Isidore of Pelusium and Theodore Stoudite. It is important to underline for what kind of passions these Church Fathers speak. Do they relate the passions only with monks or general with Christians? How can we get rid of a passion? Can their teaching be put into practice in nowadays? Which is the worst passion according to them? Are diseases and pandemic a punishment of God for our sins? Of course, we should explain that the passions in the life of a Christian can be proved deadly but they have no connection with the view that diseases are punishments from God for our passions.

Keywords: Isidore of Pelusium, Theodore Stoudite, diseases, passions, salvation, reconciliation

Introduction

God created humanity. After God had formed man, the crown of His creation, He saw all that He had made, and without no doubt it was “very good”¹. The human race was formed and fashioned by the hand of the omnipotent, good and loving God; the latter created humankind in His image and instructed them to multiply and to be stewards over everything else that He had

¹Gen. 1: 31, transl. by E. Artemi.