Saint Gregory Palamas as a Hagiorite

Contents

Translator's Note
Preface to the English edition
Introduction

1 The importance of the teaching of St. Gregory Palamas

- 1. For Orthodoxy
- 2. For Monasticism
- 3. For the Holy Mountain

2 On the Holy Mountain

- 1. His life before he moved to the Holy Mountain
- 2. His life on the Holy Mountain
- 3. Hesychastic aspects of his struggles
- 4. The falling asleep of the saint

3 One who expressed the hesychastic life of the Holy Mountain

- 1. The Holy Mountain and the Orthodox Church
- 2. Orthodox hesychia
- 3. Expression of the hesychastic life
 - a) His "dispute" with Barlaam
 - b) His homilies

4 The first settler on the Holy Mountain

- 1. The reason for writing about St. Peter the Athonite
- 2. The Holy Mountain and its value
- 3. The ascetic life of St. Peter
- 4. The temptations of the devil
- 5. The end of St. Peter's life
- 6. Characterisations of St. Peter

5 Monasticism and monks

- 1. Monasticism as prophetic, apostolic and a martyr's life
- 2. The Holy Mountain at the time of St. Gregory Palamas

- 3. Monasteries and the monastic life
 - a) Naming of the places of ascetic exercises
 - b) Monks and those in the world
 - c) Two categories of nuns
 - d) Monks and education
 - e) Different types and methods of asceticism
 - f) The purpose of withdrawal
 - g) The way of monastic life
 - h) Monks and reading
 - i) Moving of monks in the world
 - j) Imitation of the Forerunner
- 4. Conclusion

6 Fasting, vigil, prayer

- 1. Fasting
 - a) Fasting and prayer
 - b) The scope of fasting
 - c) The value of fasting
 - d) Fasting and lack of food
 - e) Demonic fasting
- 2. Vigil
 - a) The holy Fathers on the vigil
 - b) St. Gregory Palamas and vigil
- 3. Prayer
 - a) The views of Nicephoros the Solitary
 - b) The theological conditions for noetic prayer
 - c) Common energies of soul and body
 - d) Prayer by the Christians in the world
- 4. Conclusion

7 The essence of orthodox monasticism

- 1. Concern and writing
- 2. Passions and cure of the tripartite soul
- 3. Spiritual poverty
- 4. Blessed grief
- 5. Conclusions

8 His social teaching, a dimension of the monastic life

- 1. Zealotism and Zealots
- 2. The Zealots of Thessaloniki
- 3. St. Gregory's stand towards the civil war and the Zealots
- 4. The 'Romanity' of St. Gregory and the anti-'Romanity' of the anti-hesychasts
- 5. The social teaching of St. Gregory
- 6. Sociality and monasticism

9 The Keeper of the Holy Mountain

- 1. The Hagiorites and the Theotokos
- 2. Personal relationship of St. Gregory with the Theotokos
- 3. St. Gregory's teaching about the Theotokos
 - a) The Birth of the Most holy Theotokos
 - b) The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple
 - c) The Annunciation of the Theotokos
 - d) The Theotokos at the resurrection of Christ
 - e) The Dormition and assumption of the Theotokos
- 4. Characterisations of the Theotokos

10 The "Hagiorite Tome"

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Summary
- 3. Analysis of the work
 - a) Essence energy
 - b) Uncreated Light
 - c) Nous and heart
 - d) Man's union with God
 - e) Deification of the body
 - f) The experienced saints
- 4. Conclusion

11 The vision of God on the mountain

- 1. Contemporary Hagiorite witnesses of deification
- 2. The Transfiguration of Christ
- 3. The passage on the Transfiguration and interpretive commentaries

Interpretive commentaries

- a) Kingdom of God and uncreated Light
- b) The three Disciples

- c) Transfiguration of Christ and transfiguration of the Disciples
- d) The brightness of the clothes
- e) Moses and Elijah
- f) The word of the Father
- g) The path of deification
- 4. General theological comments
 - a) The purpose of deification in the Christian life
 - b) Degrees of the vision of God
 - c) The ascetic method
- 5. Conclusions

12 Empirical theology

- 1. The presuppositions of the theology of St. Gregory
- 2. Elements from the theology of St. Gregory Palamas
 - a) The two wisdoms
 - b) Truth and Church
 - c) The cure of the soul
 - d) The interpretation of the Scriptures
 - e) The knowledge of God

13 The fourth Hierarch and Theologian

- 1. St. Gregory and the three Hierarchs
- 2. The four Hierarchs and theologians in the tradition of the Church

In place of an epilogue

Glossary

Bibliography