

Holy Prophet Elijah, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2024 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

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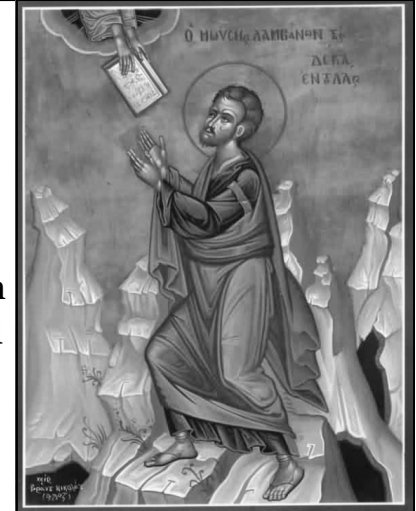
The Law and the Prophets

You've held a real Bible in your hands, haven't you? Have you ever noticed how thin the pages are? That's because it's a huge book, and the thin pages make the book not so heavy!

Did you know there are about 780,000 words in the Bible? Most of those words are from the Old Testament, the part before Christ was born. They give the Law (the many rules that the faithful people had to follow). They give the words of the Prophets, too. The Prophets are the people who God asked to speak for Him.

In church, we mostly read the part of the Bible about Jesus Christ, about His life and death and resurrection, and also about how the Christian Church started. But the Old Testament is important too!

In today's Gospel reading, Christ Himself said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill." Christ didn't come with a new religion. He didn't come to throw away the Old Testament. He came to make it even better. The Old Testament is a big deal for our Orthodox Church. When we read it, we learn more about God—what He did for us, and what He teaches us!



God gave the law to Moses (the Ten Commandments)

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Bible
- Commandments
- Disciples
- Elijah
- Fulfill
- Law
- Miracle
- Old Testament
- Prophet
- Raven

K U K I N T M X P R Y N C M L
 Y M B T F B G E V H A B Y Q G
 Z K I F B Z B A Z O I V K G P
 C E S R T W E Z D M I B E M V
 C O M M A N D M E N T S Y N C
 G I I H B C X P R O P H E T S
 I A W I J H L Y H L G X R S F
 L D B A D T H E D A E L X L N
 E L B E J J W T Q W V C L L E
 E U R K Z H S E L P I C S I D
 T N E M A T S E T D L O M F X
 F F W J Q G S S T Y W B Q L R
 B W I C R T R S T L I P V U B
 P L G A Z H E G P R U D G F G
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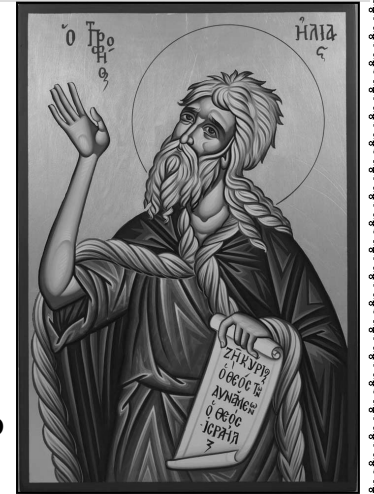
SAINT ELIJAH (ELIAS)

A PROPHET OF GOD

We have saints who lived even

before Jesus Christ did! The great prophet Elijah (or Elias, in Greek) lived almost 900 years before Christ was born, but he did important things for our Church even then!

Long ago, before Christ was born, lots of people started to worship an idol god called Baal. Lots of times they worshipped golden statues of Baal. God told Elijah to tell the people not to do this— God wanted the people to worship Him, the TRUE God.



So Elijah (or Elias) listened to God. He told the people, “If the Lord is God, follow Him. But if he is Baal, then follow him.” We all know that the Lord is God!

Elijah did lots of things during his life. One time, Elijah had to live out in the wilderness, because the King was after him. God sent ravens to feed him there. Then he went to visit a poor widow. He asked her for some food, and she didn’t have much left. Elijah told her that her bucket of flour and her bottle of oil would not run out. And it didn’t! As much as she emptied it, it would still be full!

Even though this saint lived so long ago, we can read about him in the Bible and think about what he did. He still reminds us that God wants us to follow only Him!

We celebrate Prophet Elijah on Saturday, July 20th (OC: August 2nd).

WHAT’S IN THE ICON?

Here is the Prophet Elias (Elijah) again. Can you find the raven who is feeding him food in the desert?

God was watching out for His holy prophet!

