

## The Eucharist as a Continuous Sacrifice

The King James Version of Hebrews 10:12 and 10:14 reads as follows:

*But He, when He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God.*

*For by one offering He had perfected forever them that are sanctified.*

The Greek word here translated in the KJV as well as other English versions of the Bible as “forever” is the word “διηκεως», which denotes something to be “continuous” or “perpetual”. In fact, never does the word διηκεως mean “forever”. Hence, the passages above are mistranslated in English versions of the New Testament, including Roman Catholic translations.



Protestant translators mistranslate this text to fit their soteriology. They believe that the one sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is sufficient without need of partaking of the Eucharist, which many believe to be a mere remembrance of the crucifixion without any real transformation taking place. However, Orthodox Christians believe what Holy Scripture truly teaches, that the sacrifice offered once on the Cross by the Lamb of God is *continuously* repeated on the sacrificial altars of Orthodox churches through the mysterious transformation of the bread and wine into the very Body and Blood of Christ, through the invocation of the Holy Spirit by the priest sacrificing. That Christ Himself affirms that this sacrifice ought to be done continuously, we read in John 6:53: “Truly, truly I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.” In the Greek this sentence implies a continuous action. This illuminates Hebrews 10:14 as well, which should say: “For by one offering He hath perfected them continuously that are sanctified.” In other words, the sanctification due to the sacrifice on the Cross is *continued* by the repeated sacrifice that takes place through the sacrament of the Eucharist.

From Mystagogy online blog

## Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



July 13, 2014

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 7 Ecumenical Councils

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Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

*To fethron* (Hymn of the Day) Tone 4

*Iperthethoxamenos i Hriste* (Holy Fathers) Tone 8

*You are greatly glorified, O Christ our God, who established our Fathers as luminaries upon the earth, and through them led us all to the true Faith: O most Compassionate, glory to You.*

*Tu Stavru su ton tipon* (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

*Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which you guard in peace forever, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.*

Kontakion Tone 2

*Prostasia ton Hristianon*

*O Protection of Christians unshamable, mediation with the Creator immovable, we sinners beg you, do not despise the voices of our prayers, but anticipate, since you are good, and swiftly come unto our aid as we cry out to you with faith: Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who defend now and ever those who honor you.*

Epistle Reading Titus 3:8-15

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill can-

not be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

### Announcements

Today

✘ SUN, 7/13– *Holy Fathers of the 7 Ecumenical Councils*

This Week.

✘ THU, 7/17– *Parish Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.*

✘ SUN, 7/20– *6th Sunday of Matthew*

### Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

*“Do not steal anything from anyone, and take nothing, and be content with what you earn by your own labors. Be diligent and avoid idleness. For as diligence is pleasing to God, so idleness on the contrary, as a source of every evil, is a sin very offensive to God.”*

~ St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

*“The goodness of God is so rich in graces, that it seeks a cause to have mercy on a person. Every minute God forgives us, and we should thus forgive one another. This is the greatest virtue, if you say, ‘May God forgive my brother for whatever he did to me.’”*

~ St. Anthimos of Chios

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### To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

*Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*