

Venerable Father Seraphim of Sarov

(January 2/15, July 19/August 1)

(† 1833)



Saint Seraphim was born Prokhor Moshnin in 1754 in a merchant's family. As a young boy he already showed great *devotion* to God. He liked to pray, read about lives of saints and attend church. At age 18 Prokhor told his mother he had decided to be a monk. She blessed him with a large *crucifix* which the Saint wore all his life.

Prokhor went to Sarov Monastery to serve as a novice. He ate only once a day, and on Wednesdays and Fridays did not eat at all. Very often he *withdrew* deep into the forest and prayed there for a long time.

At age 27, novice Prokhor took monastic vows. He spent most of his time in church. *Through* constant prayer Father Seraphim became *worthy* of seeing angels. Once, during the Liturgy on Holy Thursday, he saw the Lord Jesus Christ blessing the people. After this vision, Saint Seraphim could not speak for several days.

For a long time, Father Seraphim lived as a hermit in a forest five kilometers from the Monastery. He achieved such *perfection* that wild animals were not afraid of him. The venerable father even fed a bear out of his hand.

For a thousand days and nights the Holy Father prayed on a rock in the forest. His constant prayer and *purity enabled* him to see the light of *the Holy Spirit* and show it to other people.

Towards the end of his life, Father Seraphim met with everyone who wanted to see him. He greeted every person with the words, "My joy!" Thousands of visitors received help, advice and a kind word from Venerable Seraphim.

Saint Seraphim of Sarov was glorified in 1903.

Словарь к тексту

devotion, *n.* [dɪ'vəʊʃən] преданность, посвящение себя (чему-либо)

crucifix, *n.* ['kru:sɪfɪks] крест, распятие

withdraw (withdrew-withdrawn), *v.* [wɪθ'drɔ:] удаляться

through, *adv.* [θru:] путём, посредством

worthy, *adj.* ['wɜ:ði] достойный

perfection, *n.* [pə'fekʃən] совершенство

purity, *n.* ['pjʊəriti] безупречная чистота

enable, *v.* [ɪ'neɪbl] давать возможность, делать возможным

the Holy Spirit Святой Дух

Exercises

A. Найдите в тексте эквиваленты следующим словосочетаниям.

1. великая преданность Господу
2. читать жития святых
3. благословила его большим распятием
4. служить послушником
5. удалялся в лес
6. удостоился видения ангелов
7. жил отшельником в лесу
8. не боялись его
9. к концу жизни
10. принимал всех, кто хотел его видеть
11. помощь, совет и доброе слово от преподобного Серафима

B. Grammar Practice

Задайте вопросы к подчёркнутой части предложения.

1. At age 18 Prokhor told his mother that he had decided to become a monk.
2. Prokhor's mother blessed him with a large crucifix.
3. He prayed for a long time deep in the forest.
4. At age 27 novice Prokhor took monastic vows.
5. Thousands of people came to see Venerable Seraphim to ask for his advice and help.
6. Saint Seraphim was glorified in 1903.



C. Первый ученик выбирает святого, житие которого описано в одном из уроков, не называя имени святого своему товарищу по парте. Второй ученик с помощью общих вопросов старается догадаться, кто этот святой. Диалог заканчивается, когда второй ученик спрашивает *Is it Saint...?* – и называет правильное имя. Потом ребята меняются ролями.

Примеры вопросов:

Did this saint live in Russia?

Was he born in the third century?

Did he live in a monastery?

Was he a miracle worker?

Was he a hermit? и так далее.

В ответах используйте полные предложения.
Например: – *Was this saint a missionary?* – *No, he was not. He was not a missionary.*

Lesson 13

D. Вставьте в предложения подходящие по смыслу слова.

*worthy, pious, purity, devotion, secluded, perfection,
reposed in the Lord, hermitage, crucifix, withdrew*

1. When Prokhor was only three years old, his father
Prokhor's mother, Agafia, a Christian woman, raised her children alone.
2. St. Seraphim was of seeing the Most-Holy Virgin. For the first time She came to him a dream, when Prokhor, then a small child, was very ill.
3. From early childhood, Prokhor had a good memory, bright mind and to prayer.
4. The young man led a pure, life.
5. In 1778 Prokhor from the world and began serving God in the Sarov
6. All his life, the saint wore a given to him as a blessing by his beloved mother.
7. The of Father Seraphim was such that he could see what was in a person's heart.
8. St. Seraphim reached by constant prayer, silence and fasting.



E. В течение одной минуты вспомните и запишите перевод как можно большего количества слов.

1. nun _____
2. martyr _____
3. hermit _____
4. monk _____
5. wonderworker _____
6. novice _____
7. mercy _____
8. righteous _____
9. the Theotokos _____

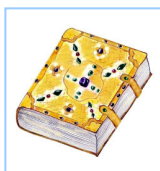
Lesson 13

10. abbot _____
11. witness _____
12. feast _____
13. holy _____
14. preach _____
15. miracle _____
16. care for _____
17. heavenly _____
18. proclaim _____
19. humility _____
20. image _____



F. Прочитайте и переведите текст. Подготовьте пересказ на английском языке, используя выделенные слова в форме прошедшего времени.

Once, in the forest, robbers (разбойники) to attack Father Seraphim. They thought that he to have money. The robbers to begin to beat him and to stop only when he fell down. Father Seraphim to be a strong man, but he did not resist the attackers. Then the thieves (воры) to decide that the holy man to be dead, and they to leave him. After the beating, Venerable Seraphim to remain hunched over for the rest of his life. When the men were caught, the holy staretz to ask the judge to forgive them.



G. Прочтите цитату из Евангелия от Матфея вслух, вслед за учителем. Найдите её в Евангелии на русском языке.

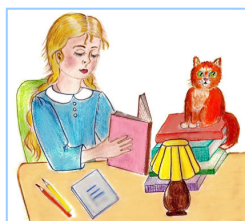
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Matthew 5:7-9





Homework

A. Найдите в словаре следующие слова и запишите их перевод.

wilderness _____

locust _____

honey _____

prophet _____

repentance _____

hurt _____

mighty _____

B. Прочитайте по транскрипции.

John the Baptist [ˈdʒɒn θɪ: ˈbæptɪst]

Messiah [məˈsaɪə]

Forerunner [ˈfɔ: rʌnə]

the Jordan River [θɪ: ˈdʒɔ:dn ˈrɪvə]

C. Прочитайте текст. Предложения, выделенные курсивом, цитируются из Евангелия от Луки (3:2-18). Найдите их в русском тексте Евангелия.

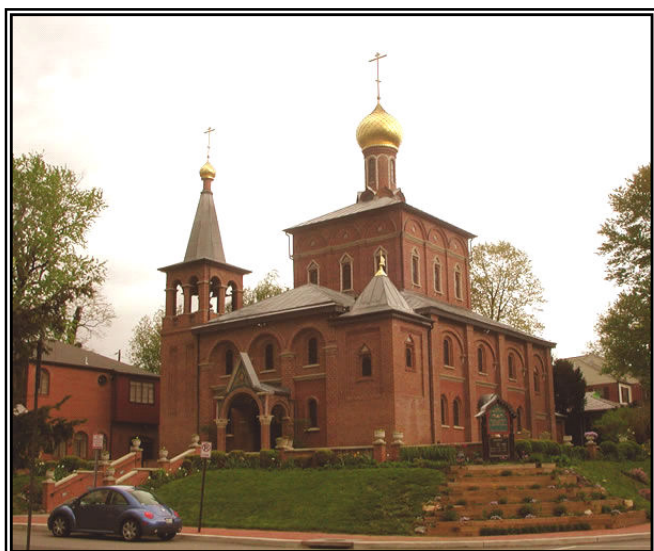
The Prophet John Preaches and Baptizes

Saint John the Forerunner lived in the wilderness. He wore simple clothes made of camel hair and ate locust and wild honey. The Lord had a special mission for John: to make people ready for the coming of the Messiah. Hundreds of years ago, the prophets wrote that the Forerunner would come to prepare the path for Christ.

God told John to go to the region near the Jordan River and preach repentance (покаяние) for the forgiveness of sins. Many people came to him to confess their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan.

People asked him what to do. *And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."* (3:11) John told the tax collectors not to take more money than they needed. He told the soldiers not to rob or hurt (обижать) anybody.

Lesson 13



Свято-Иоанно-Предтеченский Собор
в Вашингтоне, США

Some people, who believed in the prophecies about the coming of the Saviour, thought that John was Christ. John told them, *“I baptize you with water; but He Who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of Whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”* (3:16)

Saint Prophet John was worthy of baptizing our Lord Jesus Christ.

D. Составьте предложения.

1. people | for | Christ | Saint John | prepared | the coming of

2. them | in the Jordan River | he | baptized

3. asked | many | Saint John | what | people | to do

4. forgiveness | preached | he | repentance | about | of sins | and

Lesson 13

Е. Переведите изречение преподобного Серафима Саровского.

Where there is God, there is no evil. Everything coming from God is peaceful, healthy and leads a person to the judgment of his own imperfections and humility.

Ф. Выучите наизусть цитату из урока.

