

## Lesson 11

### Saint Herman of Alaska

(December 13/16, July 27/ August 9)

(†1837)



Our Venerable Father Herman of Alaska was the first saint of the Russian Orthodox Church in America. An 18th-century *missionary*, he brought the Gospel to the Aleuts and Eskimos living in Alaska.

Saint Herman was born in 1757 in a merchant's family near Moscow. His birth name is not known. At age 16 Herman became a *novice* in the Holy Trinity-Sergius *Hermitage* where he stayed for the next few years. The saint wanted to live alone in a *secluded* place and moved to Valaam Monastery. He received a blessing from Abbot Nazarius before beginning to live as a *hermit* in the forest near the monastery. Saint Herman had a beautiful voice, and on holidays he came to the church and sang in the *choir*.

After Herman spent 15 years at Valaam, the Lord called him for missionary service.

Together with several other monks, Venerable Herman went to Alaska to bring the word of God to the people there. The Russian monks were the first Orthodox missionaries in North America. They built a church and started preaching among the Alaskans. Soon, a school was built for the Aleut children.

It was not easy to *gain the trust* of the local people. At that time, Alaska was colonized by Russia. Many Russian *fur traders* who traveled there *cared* only for money and treated the *Native Americans* badly. Venerable Herman always defended the Alaskans and helped them, which he saw as his duty. He called himself “the *nanny* and the servant of the local people.” Saint Herman taught their children and helped everybody suffering from illness or poverty. His example of an honest and godly life helped many non-believers to understand Christianity. They truly loved Saint Herman and called him *Apa*, which means “grandfather.” Thanks to Venerable Herman, thousands of people accepted the Christian faith.

All his life Father Herman remained a simple monk.

He wore old clothes and ate little.

Saint Herman reposed in the Lord at the age of 81. An Orthodox Seminary in Kodiak, Alaska, is named in his honour. Venerable Herman was glorified in 1970.



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## Exercises

### A. Ответьте на вопросы по тексту.

1. How old was Father Herman when he became a novice in the Holy Trinity-Sergius Hermitage? **Father Herman was 16 (years old).**
2. Who was the abbot of Valaam Monastery when Saint Herman lived there? **Abbot Nazarius was the abbot at that time.**
3. Where did Venerable Herman serve as a missionary? **He served as a missionary in Alaska.**
4. To whom (кому?) did he bring the Gospel? **He brought the Gospel to the natives of Alaska.**
5. What did the monks do after coming to Alaska? **The monks built a church and a school for the Aleut children, and started preaching among the local people.**
6. Why was it so difficult to gain the trust of the Alaskans? **Many Russian fur traders who traveled to Alaska treated the native population very poorly.**
7. How did Saint Herman help the Native Americans? **He taught their children and helped everybody who suffered from illness and poverty.**
8. Why did the local people like Father Herman so much? **Father Herman was an honest and kind man who helped everybody.**
9. How old was Saint Herman when he reposed in the Lord? **He was 81 (years old).**
10. Where is St. Herman's Orthodox Seminary? **The Seminary is located in Kodiak, Alaska.**

### B. Составьте рассказ о жизни в Аляске святого Германа, состоящий из кратких предложений. Используйте словосочетания

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. went to Alaska                       | 5. defended the local people    |
| 2. was colonized by Russia              | 6. helped everybody             |
| 3. started preaching among the Alaskans | 7. called him Apa               |
| 4. built schools and churches           | 8. accepted the Christian faith |

**Образец пересказа.** Venerable Herman went to Alaska together with several other monks. They wanted to bring the word of God to the people who lived there. At that time Alaska was colonized by Russia. The Russian monks started preaching among the Alaskans. They built schools and churches. St. Herman often defended the local people from fur traders who treated the Native Americans badly. Venerable Herman helped everybody. Local people loved him so much that they called him Apa, which means "grandfather." Thanks to Fr. Herman, thousands of Native Americans accepted the Christian faith.

### C. Grammar Practice

Определите тип наречия, стоящего в скобках, и употребите это наречие в предложении. Для справки используйте таблицу на стр. 212-213 (в разделе **Grammar Reference, § 2**).

1. Holy Father Herman defended the native people and cared for them. (always)  
**Holy Father Herman always defended the native people and cared for them.** (наречие частоты)
2. The Alaskans loved their Apa Herman. (truly) **The Alaskans truly loved their Apa Herman.** (образа действия).
3. St. Nicholas wanted to live as a monk in the Holy Land. (quietly) **St. Nicholas wanted to live quietly as a monk in the Holy Land.** (образа действия)

4. People came to Venerable Sergius for advice and prayer. (often) **People often came to Venerable Sergius for advice and prayer.** (частоты)
5. Alexander was sixteen years old when he became the ruler of Novgorod. (only) **Alexander was only sixteen years old when he became the ruler of Novgorod.** (степени)
6. Matrona and her mother started to dig, and they found an icon. (there) **Matrona and her mother started to dig, and they found an icon there.** (места)
7. Our holy saints continue praying for us. (still) **Our holy saints still continue praying for us.** (времени)
8. He was a small child when his father died. (still) **He was still a small child when his father died.** (времени)



**D.** Вставьте недостающие гласные. Проверьте, правильно ли вы их записали; запомните слова.

S E C L U D E D

M I S S I O N A R Y

H E R M I T

C H O I R

H E R M I T A G E

N O V I C E

### E. Word-Building

Объясните, как приставка изменила значение основы. Переведите слова.

<u>dis</u> agree не соглашаться	<u>un</u> wise неумный	<u>re</u> use использовать повторно
<u>un</u> known неизвестный	<u>dis</u> trust не доверять	<u>im</u> perfect несовершенный
<u>dis</u> like не нравится	<u>un</u> kind недобрый	<u>dis</u> appear несовершенный
<u>dis</u> honest нечестный	<u>un</u> kindly недобро	<u>im</u> polite невежливый
<u>re</u> do переделать	<u>re</u> read перечитать	<u>un</u> afraid безбоязненный

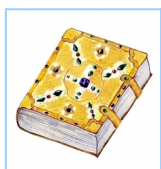
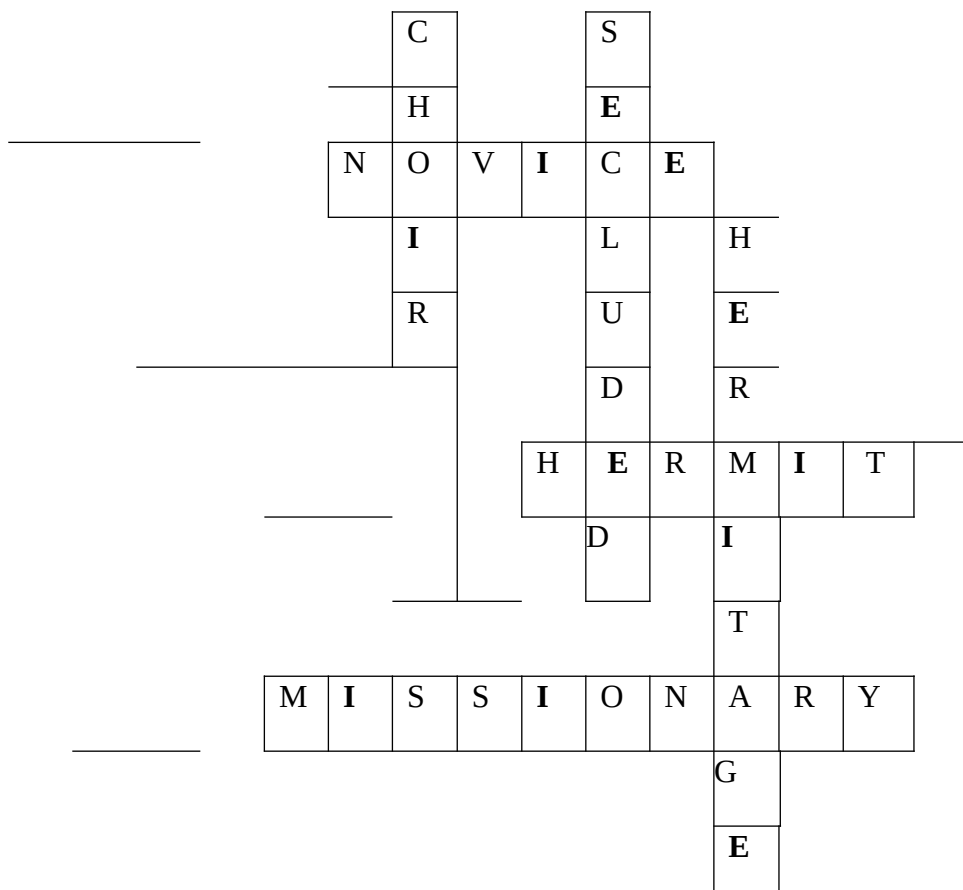
dis- обозначает отрицание

re- переделать, повторить действие

un- обозначает отрицание, отсутствие качества



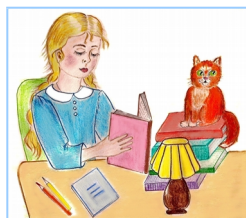
**F.** Вспомните, как переводятся слова *послушник, пустынь, миссионер, отшельник, хор, уединённый*. По заполненным клеточкам догадайтесь, как эти слова расположены в кроссворде. Впишите слова в кроссворд по памяти.



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

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace  
among men with whom He is pleased!*  
*Luke 2:14*

\* \* \*



## Homework

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

pasture \_\_\_\_\_ пастбище \_\_\_\_\_ manger \_\_\_\_\_ ясли \_\_\_\_\_

shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ пастух \_\_\_\_\_ messenger \_\_\_\_\_ посланник \_\_\_\_\_

to wrap \_\_\_\_\_ завернуть \_\_\_\_\_ mankind \_\_\_\_\_ человечество \_\_\_\_\_

C. Запишите слова упр. А в алфавитном порядке.

Manger, mankind, messenger, pasture, shepherd, wrap

D. Прочитайте текст. Предложения, выделенные курсивом, цитируются из Евангелия от Луки (2:9-20). Найдите их в русском тексте Евангелия.

### Shepherds Hear about the Birth of Jesus

Our Saviour was born in Bethlehem. Near the town were many pastures where shepherds took care of their sheep. Some of the shepherds were not asleep on that night. *And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people."*

(Luke 2:9-10) The angel told the shepherds that a Babe\* is born in the town of David, Who is Christ the Lord, the Saviour of mankind. The Babe is wrapped and lying in a manger. *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased!"* (2:13-14)



Then the heavenly messengers disappeared. At hearing this joyous news, the shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem and see the Holy Child. *And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.* (2:16) The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had seen and heard. *But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.* (2:19) When

the shepherds returned, they told everybody about the Child Whom they saw. And the people who heard them marveled (дивились, изумлялись) at this news.

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\* В Евангелии на английском языке в значении Святой Младенец употребляется слово *Babe*.

Е. Впишите в предложения недостающие глаголы из списка. Поставьте их в нужной форме (согласуйте в числе, лице и времени).

*decide, be afraid, tell (2), praise, appear, be*

1. The shepherds were afraid when the angels appeared before them.
2. The angel told them about the birth of our Saviour.
3. The shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem and see the Holy Child.
4. Mary and Joseph were with the Holy Babe.
5. The shepherds praised the Lord and told everyone what they had seen.

Ф. Выучите наизусть цитату из урока.

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