

The Elder Joseph the Hesychast (+1959) Struggles, Experiences, Teachings (20)

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4. On Trials and the Spiritual Law

The Fathers' saying 'spill your blood and receive the spirit' could be described as the ever-memorable Elder's permanent motto. Intrepid and courageous as he was, he left no room for queries or doubts in his life. But his ardent faith also contributed to this excellent combination, and so the results were always positive. Resolve and daring are the chief characteristics of man's freedom which manifest his will, and with faith in God – which is all that is asked of our rational nature – they arouse and bring down upon us the divine energy which heals what is infirm and completes what is wanting.

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