25 Απριλίου 2010

Sunday of the Paralytic

/ Συναξαριακές Μορφές



by Archimandrite Tikhon (Shevkunov)

Today is a feast day for all of us paralytics. Today, brothers and sisters, we to a certain degree are meeting our name-day, our feast day. Who among us can boast that he is strong, courageous, bearing all the misfortunes of this age, fulfilling all of Christ's commandments? Deliver us, O Lord, if such a person stands in our midst — one cannot imagine a worse righteous or strong man! The Apostle Paul says: *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong* (2 Cor 12:10). But the Apostle did not deprive himself of one thing: strong faith and undoubting hope in the Savior. "The power of God is made perfect in weakness!"

How can the world, which does not believe in God and preaches the illusory omnipotence of mankind, understand this? ($\pi\epsilon\rho\iota\sigma\sigma\delta\tau\epsilon\rho\alpha...$)