

# St. Athanasius Academy of Orthodox Theology

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The Most Rev. Metropolitan JOSEPH, Primate

The V. Rev. Fr. Jon Braun, President

Please remember our Prisoner-Students

June 2019

Dear Friend of St. Athanasius Academy,

## PATHWAY TO PARADISE

### HE WHO IS LIFE AND LIGHT – THE ONE TEMPLE RESURRECTED

From this month's Academy Booklet - PART II – helpful guidance from St. Athanasius:

## THE CROSS AND RECONCILIATION ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

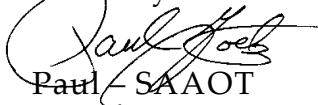
*St. Athanasius writes:*

"Even on the Cross, He did not hide Himself from sight; rather He made all creation witness to the presence of its Maker. Then, having once let it be seen that "it" (his mortal flesh) was truly dead, He did not allow that Temple – which was Jesus and His Body – to stay there long, but raised it on the third day, impassible and incorruptible – the pledge and token of His victory.

"He could have raised His glorified body and displayed it alive – at the very same time as His death. But the all-wise Savior did not, lest some people should deny "it" had actually or totally died. Besides, if the interval between His death and rising from this death had been only two days, the glory of there being no decay and decomposition, might not have been clear. He waited one full day to show His manifested mortal body was dead, then, on the third day, displayed Himself to be incorruptible. He waited no longer, lest some people forget about it and doubt whether it were in truth, to be mortal flesh like our.

No, while the matter was still ringing in their ears, with eyes still straining and minds confused, and while those who put Him to death were still bragging for three days, then the Word of God (from in the beginning), showed His once dead body to be immortal and incorruptible. It was evident to all, that the divine Person of the Word, had not died from any natural weakness of His body, only the fleshly clothing, in order that, by the Grace of the Savior, the fear of death might be done away."i

Sincerely



Paul - SAAOT