

“Interventions”



Are You Wearing a Cross?

An Existential Question

In the 1960s, a nineteen year old Greek-Australian man named Themistocles Adamopoulos formed a hugely popular rock band called “The Flies.” In the words of Themistokles:

At that time it was fashionable for rock stars to visit gurus in India for advice and spiritual guidance. To make a long story short, once I went to one of the ashrams—this is in Australia—and the guru there went around tapping us on the forehead, saying ‘receive knowledge.’ When he came to me, he said, ‘You have to remove the Cross.’ It was a sort of fashion statement for us wear a Cross at that time, not that we were Christians. Surprised, I asked him why. The guru replied ‘I cannot give you wisdom. Will you take it off?’ I actually contradicted and stood up and said, ‘I’m not going to remove it.’ Not because of a faith which I did not have, but there was something inside of me telling me this Cross is disturbing him. This Cross has something that has to be investigated. So I left. I began to ponder on this issue of Christianity. I began reading the Bible with great passion, and that is where I discovered faith in Christ. I became an Orthodox Christian, went to Seminary, and dedicated my life to Christ, becoming a monk.



The former rock star is now Archimandrite Fr. Themistocles. Since 2008, he has worked as a missionary in Sierra Leone, where, with complete self-denial and under extremely difficult circumstances, he transmits the faith and helps the poor to the best of his ability.

From the reaction of the guru to the Cross we can understand what spiritual darkness we would still find ourselves in without the Cross and Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Presented by

† *Metropolitan Cyprian*

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† Holy Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonikos