

“Interventions”



The Jesus Prayer and Delusion

“...**I remember** when I was in the sanatorium, there was a monk hospitalized there who had accustomed himself to saying the Jesus Prayer. He would close his eyes and continually repeat ‘Lord Jesus Christ... Lord Jesus Christ...’

“**U**pon seeing him, a certain visitor started making the sign of Cross and said: ‘Oh, we are in the presence of a Saint!’

“**O**ne day, however, this monk said to me:

“**I** told off so-and-so and so-and-so. I also wrote letters to such-and-such Bishops, telling them that if they change their way of thinking I will be on their side.’

“**W**ait a minute, brother,’ I said. ‘You are illiterate and you have tuberculosis. How can you presume to say such things?’

“**A**nd what did he answer me!

“**I**f there were only one or two others like me, the world would be saved!”

“**H**ad he not been well in the head, he could have been excused, but his head was fine.

“**S**ince he forced himself to say the Jesus Prayer continually, it became a habit. And then every thought that crossed his mind he believed to come from God. That is how he reached the point of believing that there was nobody else like him in the entire world!”

• *It is dangerous for someone to practice the Jesus Prayer without simultaneously cultivating **self-reproach, humility, and repentance**. Otherwise one is in danger of falling into delusion!*



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