

The Church of Antioch

by Ignatius of Antioch

The sermon highlights the significance of prayer and unity in the Church of Antioch as it celebrates its restoration and peace.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 13:11, Philippians 4:6, Colossians 3:14, James 1:4

Topics: "Church Leadership", "Perfection In Christ"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch urges the Church of Antioch to elect a worthy delegate to journey to Syria and congratulate them on their peace and restored greatness, emphasizing the importance of completing God's work on earth and in heaven. He encourages the church to send someone with an epistle to rejoice over the tranquility obtained through their prayers and to aim for perfection, as God is ready to assist those who desire to do well.

Transcript

Your prayers have reached to the Church of Antioch, and it is at peace.

Coming from that place bound, I salute all; I who am not worthy to be styled from thence, inasmuch as I am the least of them. Nevertheless, according to the will of God, I have been thought worthy [of this honour], not that I have any senses [of having deserved it], but by the grace of God, which I wish may be perfectly given to me, that through your prayers I may attain to God. In order, therefore, that your work may be complete both on earth and in heaven, it is fitting that, for the honour of God, your Church should elect some worthy delegate; so that he, journeying into Syria, may congratulate them that they are [now] at peace, and are restored to their proper greatness, and that their proper constitution has been re-established among them.

What appears to me proper to be done is this, that you should send some one of your number with an epistle, so that, in company with them, he may rejoice over the tranquillity which, according to the will of God, they have obtained, and because that, through your prayers, I have secured Christ as a safe harbour. As persons who are perfect, ye should also aim at those things which are perfect. For when ye are desirous to do well, God is also ready to assist you.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ignatius-of-antioch/the-church-of-antioch/>

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