

## Verses on Lord I Have Called

*For the venerable one, in Tone 4:*

O thou who wast illumined  
by light divine,  
when with purity of mind thou didst lift up thine eyes  
and likewise preferred things which are to come eternally  
to things which are inconstant,  
then, receiving fire in thy heart, O father,  
like a deer thou didst thirst  
for divine love;  
and, unmindful of flesh and blood,  
thou didst prepare thyself for the struggles of asceticism,  
for which cause thou didst make the passions of thy body  
subject to thy soul.

To ascend the mountains of God  
thou didst make thy dwelling in the heights,  
without being brought low by the vigilant needs  
of this lowly body, O father Ioannikios;  
for, uniting thyself to the Good One  
by standing whole nights and days in prayer,  
thou wast illumined  
and didst receive the gift of prophecy,  
to behold things afar off as though they were near,  
and to foretell to the faithful things which are to come.  
Wherefore, we glorify thee  
as a divine teacher.

The assaults and darts of the demons  
thou didst mightily blunt  
with the entreaties of thy prayers,  
and by the power of God, O right glorious one,  
thou didst triumph over them.  
Wherefore, as thou wast refreshed by the humility of thy  
heart,  
the Good One hath given thee  
miracles as honours.  
For this cause, thy precious relics  
pour forth fragrant myrrh,  
for thou hast shown thyself to be the sweet fragrance of  
Christ,  
O father Ioannikios.

*And of the hieromartyr, in Tone 2:*

Receiving a fitting name through divine providence, O  
father,  
thou didst confirm it,  
signifying it materially;  
for in thine endurance thou didst vanquish multitudes of  
adversaries  
and the assembly of torturers.  
Wherefore, receiving a crown of victory,  
thou didst cry out with faith:  
Glory to Thine invincible might, O Thou Who lovest  
mankind!

On this, thy divine memorial,  
thou pourest forth the most fragrant myrrh of healings  
upon us today,  
O wise Nicander;  
thou drivest away the darkness of sorrows and bodily  
sufferings,  
and fillest with rich grace  
the assembly of all who cry out to Christ:  
Thou art the inexhaustible myrrh perfuming all who  
hymn Thee!

As thou hast boldness before Christ,  
Who alone is glorious in His saints,  
entreat Him, O venerable Nicander,  
for all who with love celebrate thy memory  
and praise thy corrections,  
that through grace we may become partakers  
of His ineffable good things and incorruptible glory.

*Glory ..., in Tone 4:*

O venerable father,  
the sound of thy corrections hath gone forth into all the  
earth;

wherefore, thou hast found the reward of thy labours in  
the heavens.

Thou didst destroy hordes of demons  
and hast attained unto the ranks of the angels,  
whose life thou didst blamelessly emulate.

As thou hast boldness before Christ God, ask peace for  
our souls.

#### **At the Aposticha,**

*the stichera of the Ochtoechos; and Glory ..., in Tone 8:*

We honour thee as the instructor of a multitude of  
monks,

O Ioannikios our father;  
for through thy steps we have truly recognized  
how to walk aright.

Blessed art thou who, labouring for Christ,  
didst denounce the power of the enemy,

O converser with the angels,  
companion of the venerable and the righteous.

With them pray thou to the Lord, that our souls find  
mercy.