

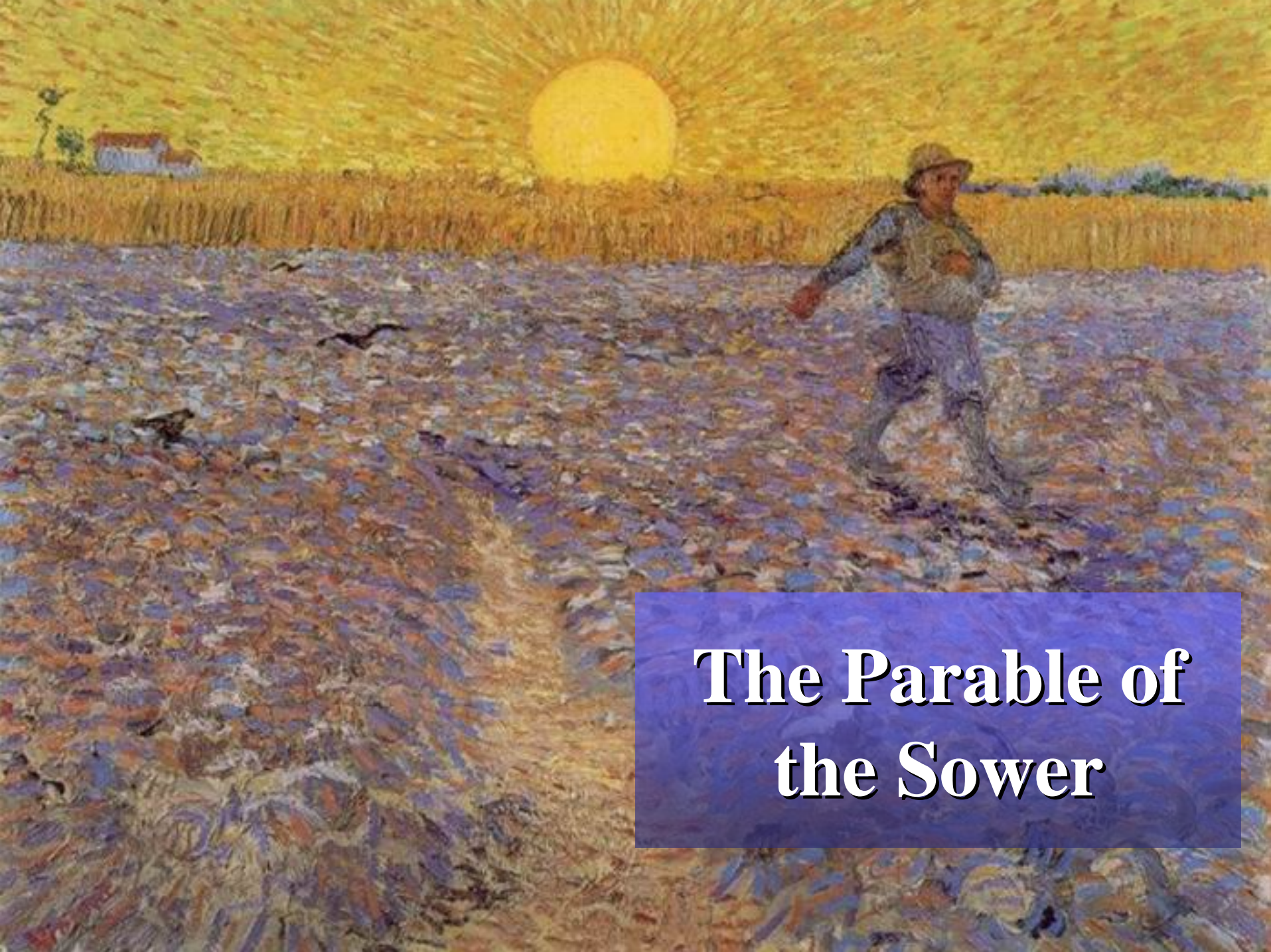
Church History Literacy

St. Benedict – Part 1 Background to Monasticism

Lesson 36

Biblical-Literacy.com

© Copyright 2006 by W. Mark Lanier. Permission hereby granted to reprint this document in its entirety without change, with reference given, and not for financial profit.



The Parable of the Sower

The background of the slide is a reproduction of the painting 'The Parable of the Sower' by Vincent van Gogh. It depicts a farmer sowing seeds in a field at sunset. The sky is a vibrant yellow with a large, glowing sun. The field is filled with a dense, textured pattern of purple and blue, representing the seeds. In the distance, a small house and a tree are visible on the left, and a line of trees on the right. The overall mood is one of hope and labor.

Birds devour

**The Parable of
the Sower**

The background of the slide is a painting of a sower in a field at sunset. The sun is a large, bright yellow circle in the upper center, with rays of light radiating outwards. The sky is a mix of yellow and orange. In the distance, there is a small house with a red roof and a chimney. The field is filled with golden wheat. In the foreground, a sower is walking from right to left, scattering seeds. The ground is covered in a mix of brown and blue, suggesting the seeds are being scattered. The overall style is impressionistic, with visible brushstrokes and a warm, golden light.

Birds devour

Poor roots

**The Parable of
the Sower**

The background is a painting of a sower in a field at sunset. The sun is a large, bright yellow circle in the upper center, with rays of light radiating outwards. The sky is a mix of yellow and orange. The field is filled with golden-brown wheat. In the distance, there is a small blue house with a red roof. A sower, wearing a hat and a long coat, is walking from right to left, scattering seeds. The ground is covered in a dense layer of seeds and small plants. The overall style is impressionistic, with visible brushstrokes and a warm, golden light.

Birds devour

Poor roots

Choked by thorns

**The Parable of
the Sower**

The background is a painting of a sower in a field at sunset. The sun is a large, bright yellow circle in the upper center, with rays of light radiating outwards. The sky is a mix of yellow and orange. The field is a mix of brown and purple, with a sower in the center-right, wearing a hat and a long coat, walking towards the left. In the background, there is a small house and some trees.

Birds devour

Poor roots

Choked by thorns

Fruitful

**The Parable of
the Sower**



Birds devour

Poor roots

Choked by thorns

Fruitful

Especially true in
ancient Rome





Monasticism





Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)





Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church





Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
 2. Rise of monasticism
- 



Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
 2. Rise of monasticism
- 



1. Secularization of the church



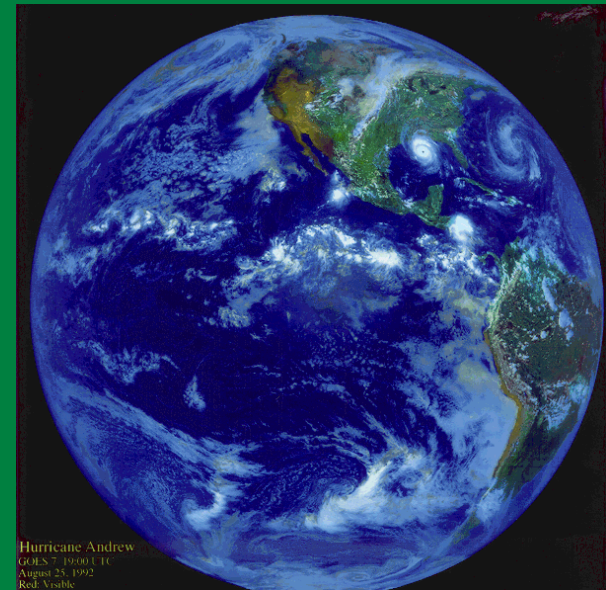


1. Secularization of the church





1. Secularization of the church





1. Secularization of the church





1. Secularization of the church



The church
becomes part of
the world culture



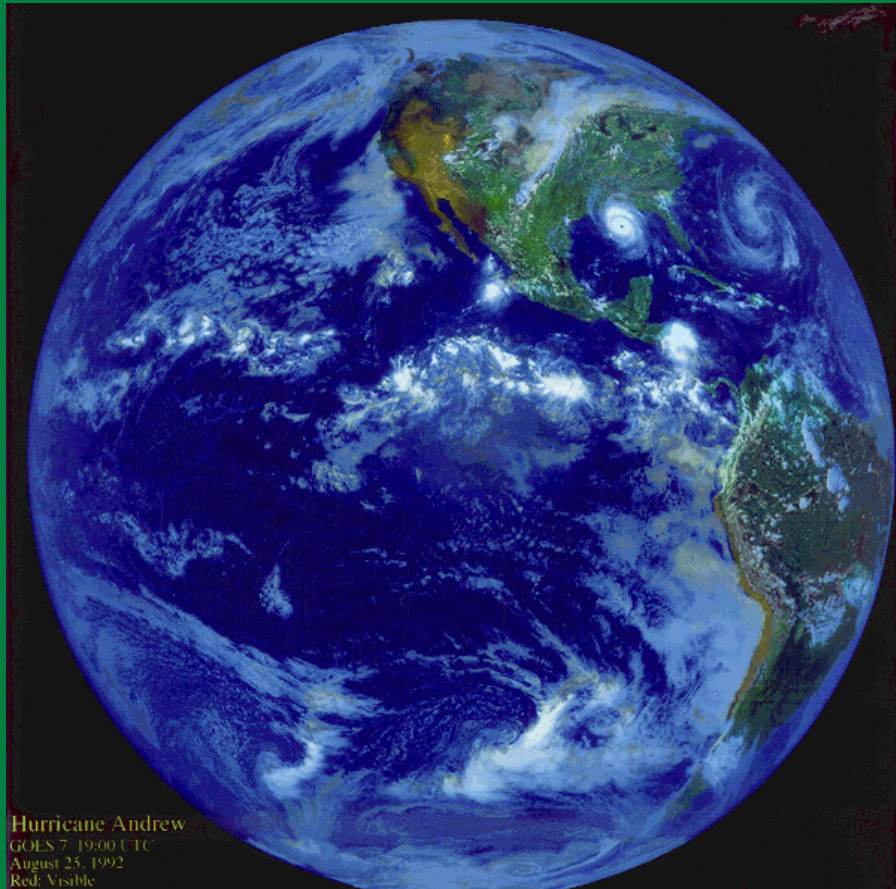
1. Secularization of the church

The church
becomes part of
the world culture



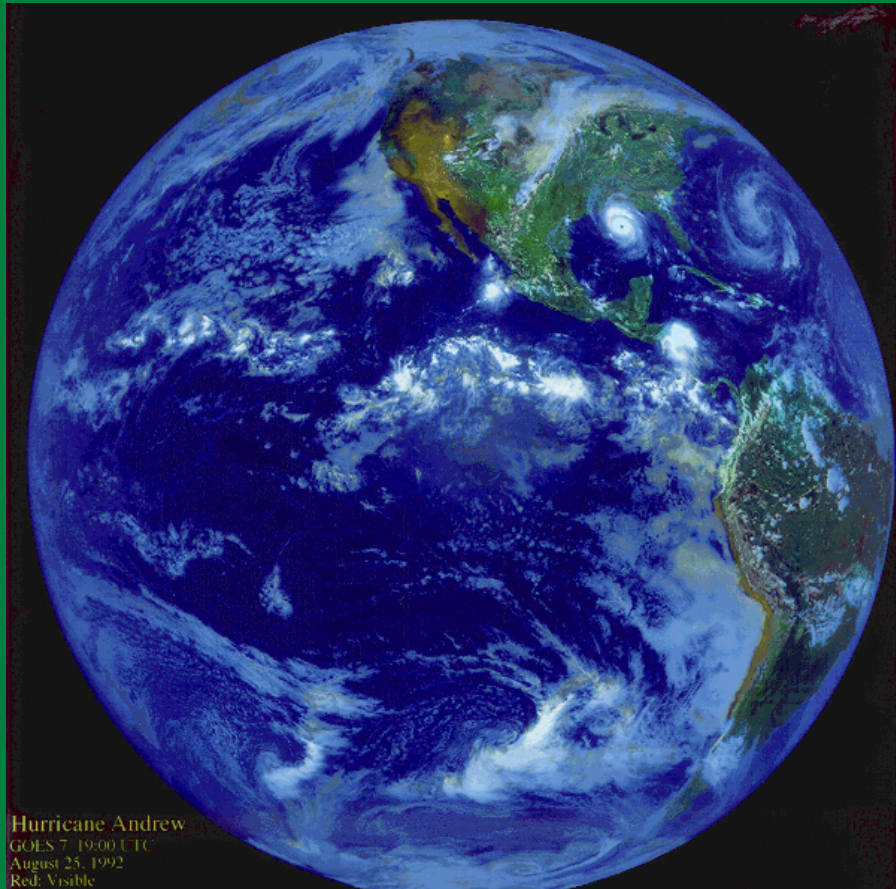
Hurricane
GOES 7, 1900, 10
August 25, 1992
Red: Visible

The church becomes secular



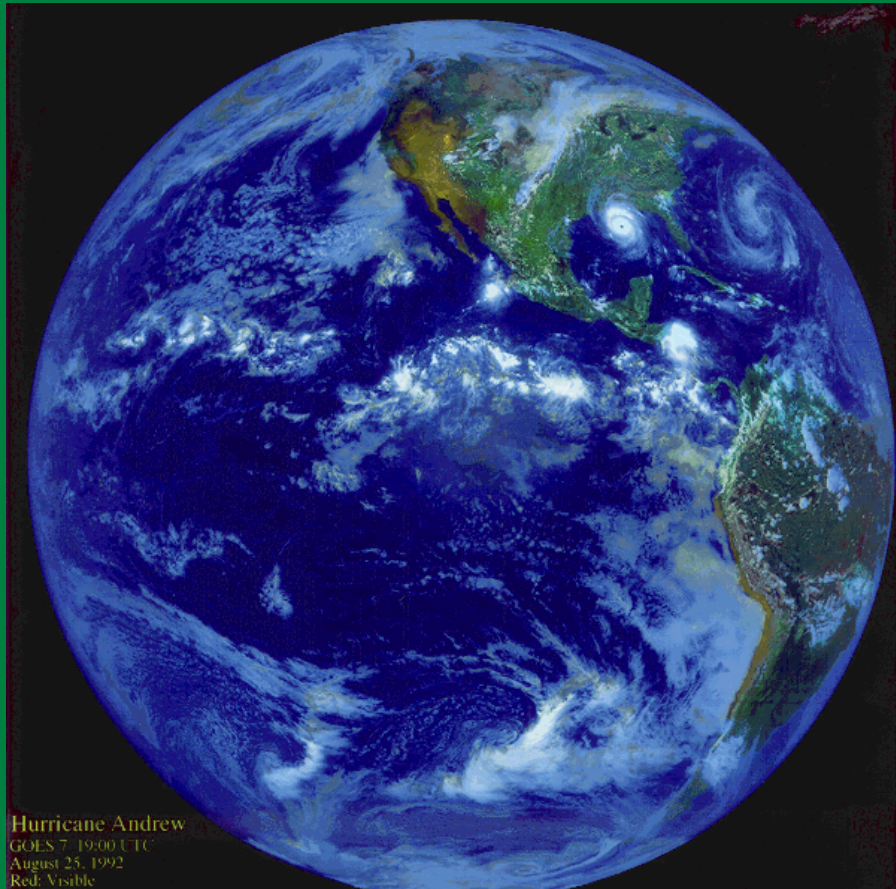
The church becomes secular

Effects on the
world?



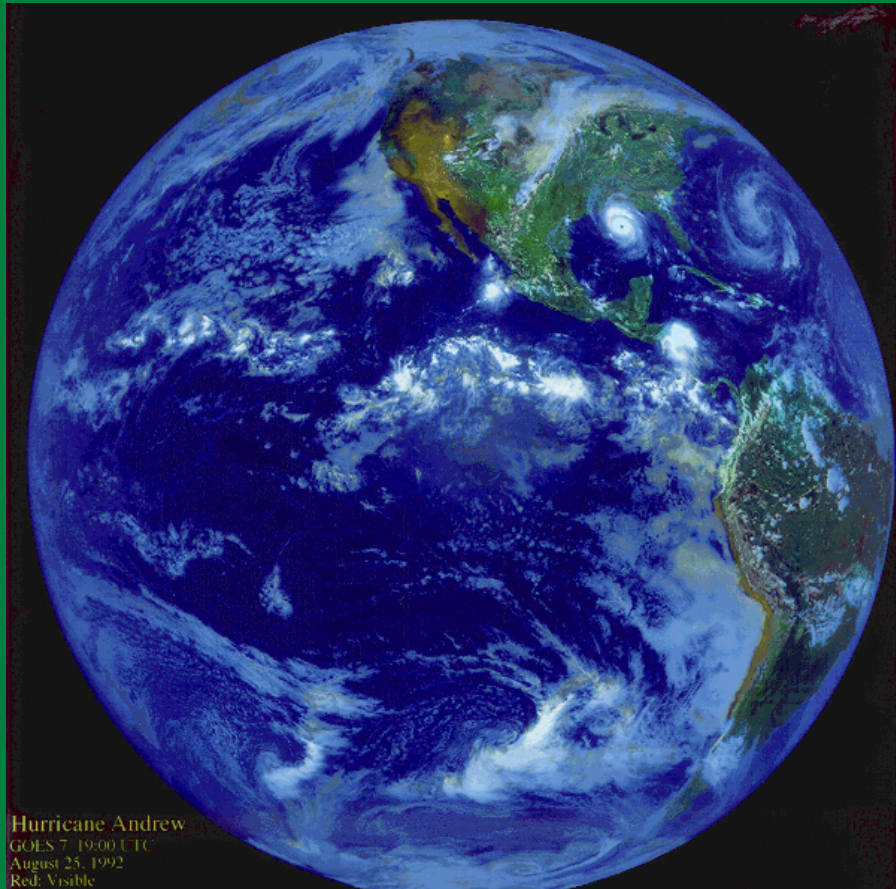
The church becomes secular

Effects on the
world?



The church becomes secular

Effects on the
world?



The church becomes secular



The church becomes secular



For the church?

The church becomes secular



For the church?



The church becomes secular



For the church?



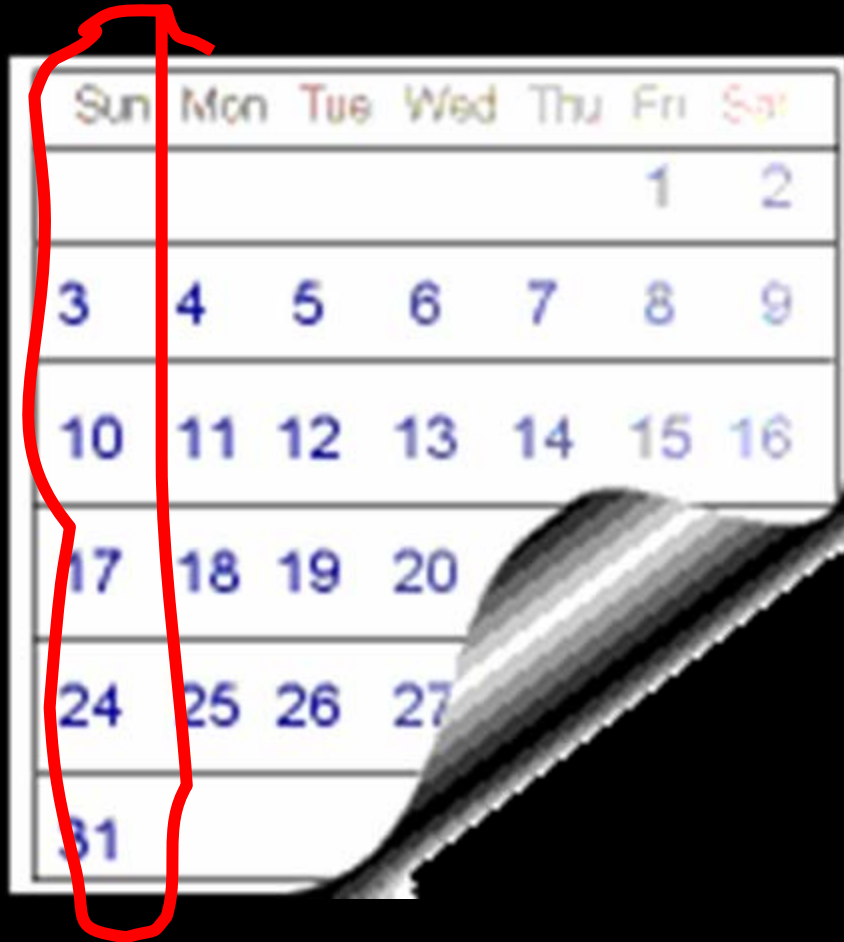


Where the secular
church was good
for the world



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20			
24	25	26	27			
31						

Constantine
declares Sunday
a holiday



A calendar grid showing the days of the week and dates. The days of the week are listed at the top: Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. The dates are listed in rows. A red outline highlights the Sunday column, which contains the dates 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. The calendar is partially obscured by a dark, curved shape on the right side.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20			
24	25	26	27			
31						

Constantine
declares Sunday
a holiday



People are seen
as equals (well,
kind of,
anyway)

Women got
many new rights





Women got
many new rights

- Property



Women got
many new rights

- Property
- Dressing codes



Women got
many new rights

- Property
- Dressing codes
- Rape laws



Women got many new rights

- Property
- Dressing codes
- Rape laws
- Guardianship of children



Children got a
few new rights



Children got a few new rights

- Infanticide illegal



Children got a few new rights

- Infanticide illegal
- Abandonment and selling still legal



Gladiator
fighting laws
changed

Gladiator fighting laws changed





Where the secular
church was
advantageous for
the church



The church gets
“corporate”
status



The church gets “corporate” status

- Owns property

The church gets “corporate” status

- Owns property



The clergy gets
special
treatment



The clergy gets special treatment

- Taxation



The clergy gets special treatment

- Taxation
- Military exemption





Many “positives”
were also
“negatives”



The church gets “corporate” status

- Owns property



The church gets “corporate” status

- Owns property
- So why tithe?



The church gets “corporate” status

- Owns property
- So why tithe?
- Opulence has an effect

The clergy gets special treatment

- Taxation
- Military exemption



The clergy gets special treatment

- Taxation
- Military exemption
- The call of \$\$ not of God





The “professors”
greatly increase in
number



The “professors”
greatly increase in
number



The “professors”
greatly increase in
number

- The “socials”



The “professors”
greatly increase in
number

- The “socials”
- The “soldiers”

The soldiers' prayer:



The soldiers' prayer:

To you we all come to
supplicate for our Emperor
Constantine and for his God
beloved sons: That he may
be kept safe and victorious
for us in long, long life we
plead.





Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
 2. Rise of monasticism
- 



Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
2. Rise of monasticism

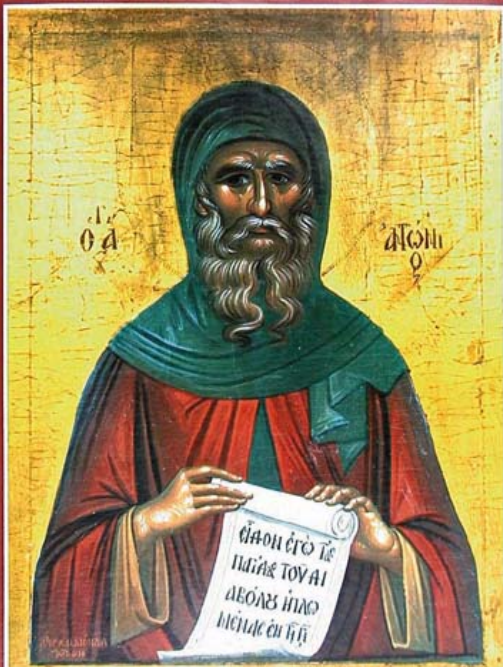


2. Rise of monasticism



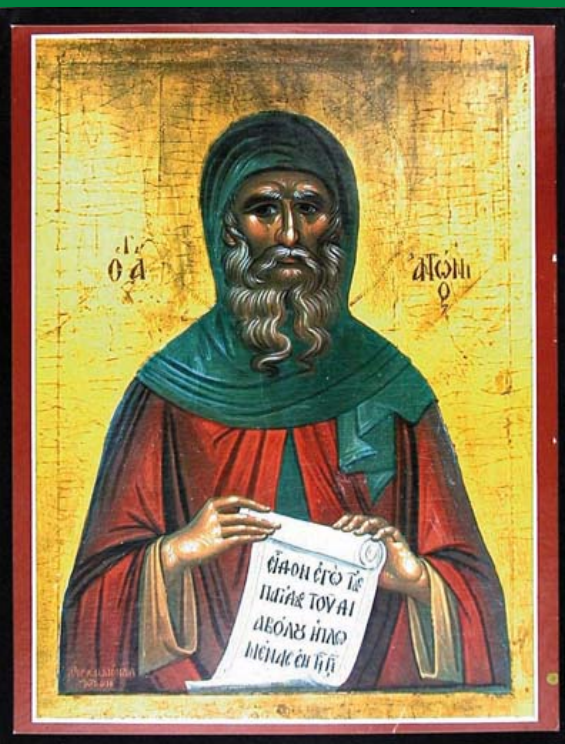


2. Rise of monasticism



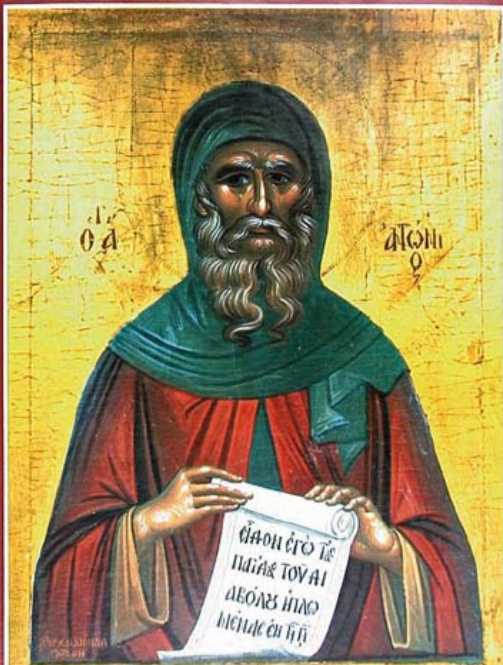


2. Rise of monasticism



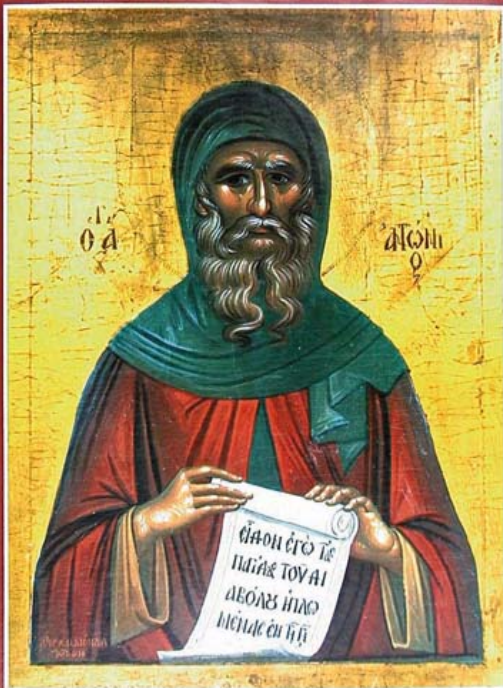


2. Rise of monasticism



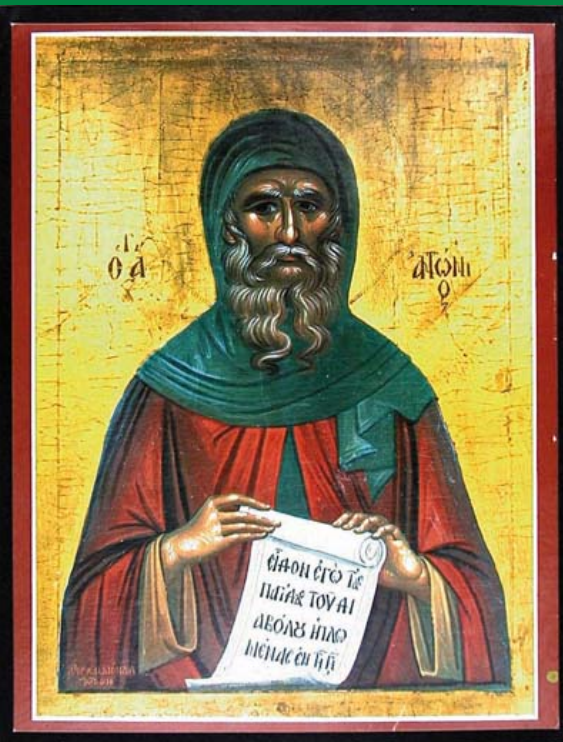


2. Rise of monasticism





2. Rise of monasticism



The purpose: To
grow in loving
God

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world - the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father”

The purpose: To
grow in loving
God



The purpose: To
grow in loving
God

- Vows of poverty

“Blessed are you
who are poor, for
yours is the
kingdom of God”
Lk 6:20

The purpose: To
grow in loving
God

- Vows of poverty

“Blessed are you
who are poor, for
yours is the
kingdom of God”
Lk 6:20

“One thing you
lack... Go sell
everything you
have and give to
the poor.”
Mk 10:21

The purpose: To grow in loving God

- Vows of poverty

“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me”

The purpose: To grow in loving God

- Vows of poverty



The purpose: To
grow in loving
God

- Vows of poverty
- of Chastity

“Are you
unmarried? Do not
look for a wife”

1 Cor. 7:27

The purpose: To
grow in loving
God

- Vows of poverty
- of Chastity

“Are you
unmarried? Do not
look for a wife”

1 Cor. 7:27

“Now about virgins
... I think that it is
good for you to
remain as you are”

1 Cor. 7:25-26

The purpose: To grow in loving God

- Vows of poverty
- of Chastity

“Are you
unmarried? Do not
look for a wife”

1 Cor. 7:27

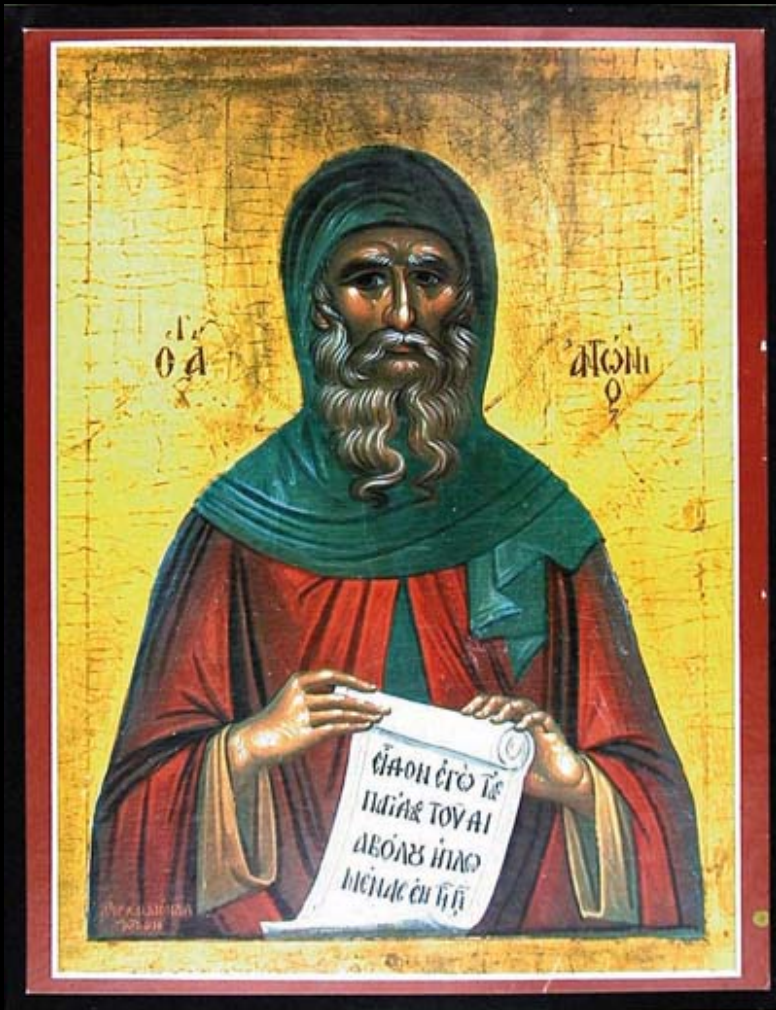
“Now about virgins
... I think that it is
good for you to
remain as you are”

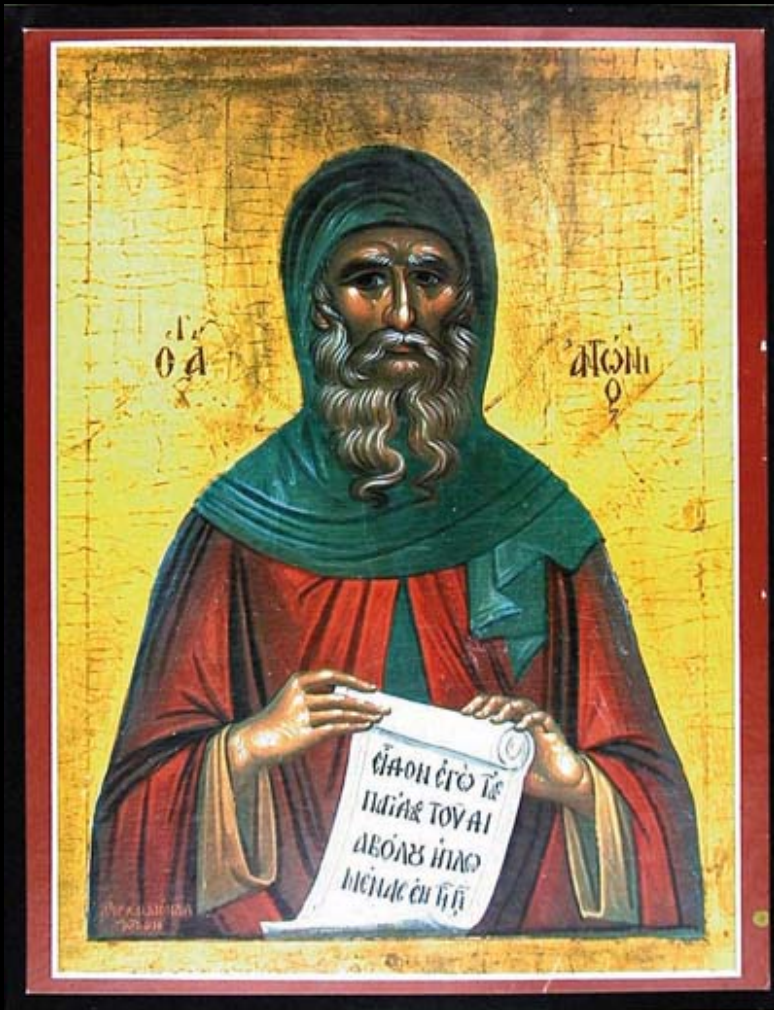
1 Cor. 7:25-26

The purpose: To grow in loving God

- Vows of poverty
- of Chastity
- of obedience

Many hermits
were
impressive,
many were
bizarre



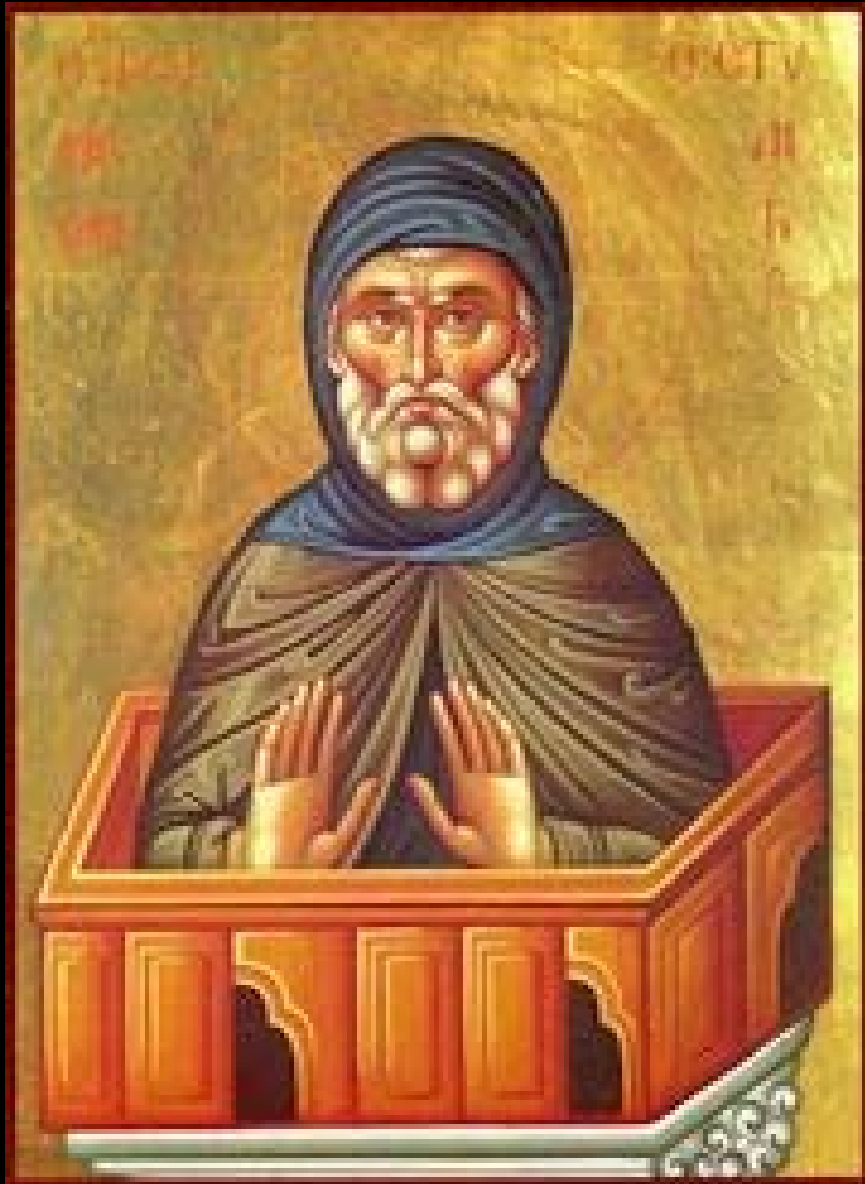


Many hermits
were
impressive,
many were
bizarre

- St. Antony

St. Paul the Simple

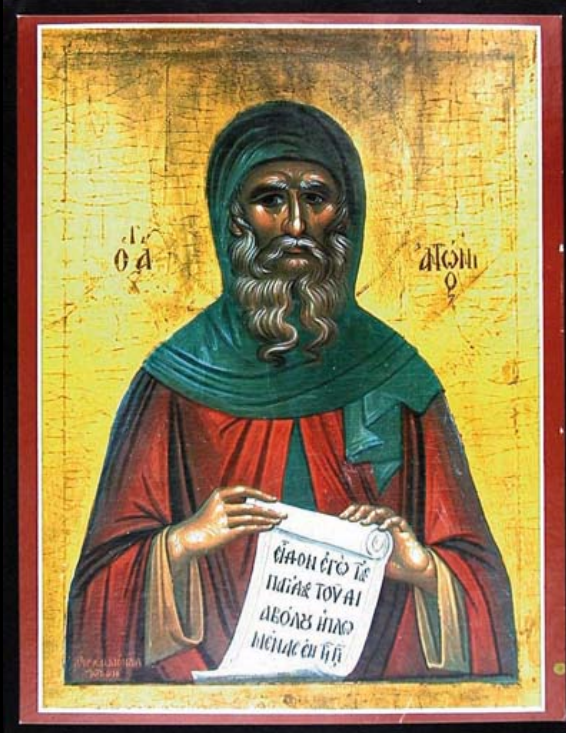




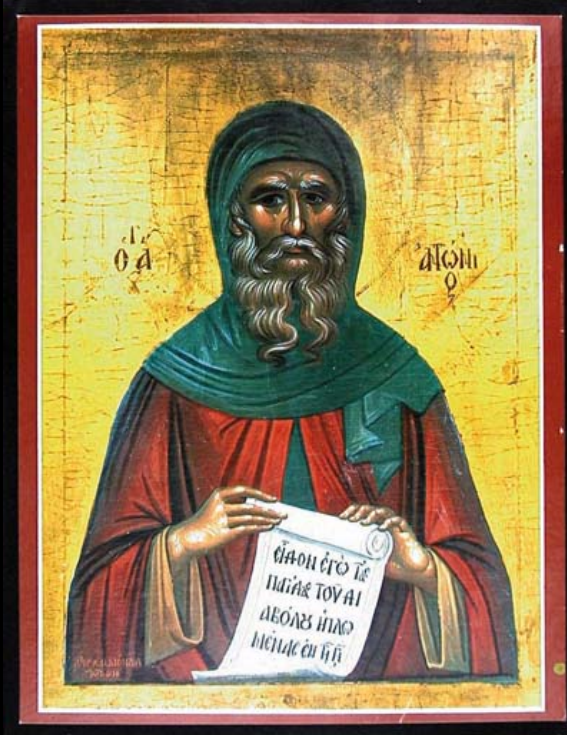
St. Simeon the
Stylite



Macarius the Elder



Over time, the
hermits started
cloisters



Over time, the
hermits started
cloisters





Pachomius got
things organized



Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
 2. Rise of monasticism
- 



Monasticism

(Monks &
nuns)

1. Secularization of the church
2. Rise of monasticism



Next week: St. Benedict and his Rule




Points for home






Points for home

1. Balance (exm. “in” the world, not “of” it)
- 



Points for home

1. Balance (exm. “in” the world, not “of” it)
 2. Pay attention to God
- 



Points for home

1. Balance (exm. “in” the world, not “of” it)
 2. Pay attention to God
 3. Find a way to sacrifice for others less fortunate
- 