

**I**T WAS THEN [*at the Lord's Ascension*], Dearly Beloved, that the Son of man, the Son of God, became known in a more perfect, a holier, manner: when He betook Himself to the majestic glory of the Father, and in an ineffable way began to be more present to us in His Divinity, as His humanity became more remote to us. Then a more instructed faith began, by way of the soul, to draw nigh to that Son Who was equal to the Father, without need to touch and handle the bodily substance in Christ, in which He is less than the Father.

St Leo the Great, Pope of Rome  
*Second Homily On the Lord's Ascension*, part IV  
Toal, *The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers*, Vol. II, p. 453

**W**HEN THE SOUL CLEAVES TO THE LORD, and the Lord pities and loves it, coming to it and cleaving to it, and the intention from that time remains continually faithful to the grace of the Lord, they become *one spirit*, one composite thing, one intention, the soul and the Lord; and while the body belonging to it is prostrate upon earth, the intention of the soul has its conversation wholly in the heavenly Jerusalem, mounting even to the third heaven, and cleaving to the Lord, and ministering to Him there. And He, while sitting in the throne of majesty on high, in the heavenly city, is wholly in company with the soul, in the body that belongs to it. He has set her image above in Jerusalem, the heavenly city of the Saints, and has set His own image, the image of the unspeakable light of His Godhead, in her body. He ministers to her in the city of the body, while she ministers to Him in the heavenly city. She has inherited Him in heaven, and He has inherited her upon earth. The Lord becomes the soul's inheritance, and the soul becomes the inheritance of the Lord.

Saint Macarius the Great  
*Fifty Spiritual Homilies*, A.J. Mason, *Homily XLVI*, p. 288

# PEARLS

## FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

*Week of Ascension, 2012*

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