



the Lord.” (Exodus 14:13, 14) The Lord is your strength and salvation. Whoever is satisfied with the Lord does not need any other power, but says, “There is none upon earth that I desire besides You.”

With this principle, young the young shepherd David went to fight Goliath the Giant. He approached Goliath and said, *“You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you*

in the name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defiled.” (I Samuel 17:45) Yes, Lord, I do not own any weapons like him, but I have Your Name and Your Power. There is none upon earth that I desire besides You. David fought with this Divine power which spared him all weapons of war, “For the battle is the Lord’s.” (I Samuel 17:47) and God is the Conqueror in battles. ✠

Who is the Martyr?

Ήμε πε πωμάρτυρος

Written By His Grace Bishop Serapion

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In the Christian understanding a martyr is the person, who is killed, because of his faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw this happen in Abu Korkas, where non-Christian extremists entered the Church and killed the worshippers within. Despite the fact that they knew nothing about the worshippers, they killed them just because they were Christians. There is also a higher degree of martyrdom in which the person who is suffering is given the opportunity to escape death if he denies his faith,

and he refuses.

However when there is a quarrel between a Christian and non-Christian over a piece of land or any other reason, and the Christian person is killed, he is not considered a martyr, even if he was a victim and was killed unjustly. Therefore, not every Christian who was killed unfairly or by mistake is considered a martyr. We pray for all those innocent souls, who were killed, and offer our deepest condolences and compassion to their families. But in the Christian understanding, they are not considered martyrs.

Finally, there is yet another example of martyrdom, the confessors, who suffer for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ without the losing of their life. ✠