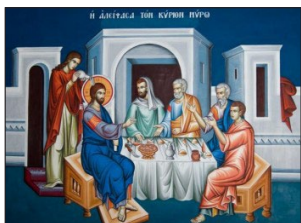




■ † Great and Holy Wednesday

“Let us also immerse ourselves
in deep contemplation”*



From **Wednesday** until the evening of Thursday the Lord was silent, so that at that time He could speak with His disciples, pouring forth words unlike anything in any writings—words not of human origin but Divine.

Now, as the Church points out, we hear from the Lord's mouth that the disciples should not hinder His anointing with myrrh, for this served as a preparation for His death. Before His eyes was only death—the final mystery of His coming to earth for our salvation.

Let us also immerse ourselves in deep contemplation of this mystery-filled death, to draw from it good hope for the salvation of our souls, which are burdened by many sins, and which do not know how to obtain peace from the weariness of our awakened conscience, and from the knowledge of the righteousness of God's Judgment, which is dread and impartial. □

(*) St. Theophan the Recluse, *Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God.*