

November 3rd

# Martyrs Akepsimas, Joseph & Aeithalas of Persia

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 5  
Special Melody: *Rejoice*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Re - joice, three Mar - tyrs might - y of name,  
the vir - tues' pure a - bodes, the Trin - i - ty's trin - i - ty;  
ye wine bowls that pour forth pi - e - ty as a God - giv - en  
wine, bring - ing joy and glad - ness to the souls of all;  
ye breasts gush - ing forth the milk of the heal - ing of mal - a - dies;  
ye stars that flash forth with the light of ē - ter - nal truth,  
light - ing up thē ends of the world with its shin - ing rays;  
ye who al - layed the bit - ter night and dark - ness of ig - no - rance  
and as the day have en - light - ened the minds of  
all men with ra - di - ance: now make in - ter - ces - sion  
with the Sav - ior Christ to grant His Great Mer - cy to our souls.

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2) Re - joice, ye that are wor - thy of awe,  
Jo - seph, A - ei - tha - las and sa - cred A - kep - si - mas,  
who whol - ly quenched with di - vine fire and with the knowl - edge of  
God the de - ceit of god - less wor - ship - pers of fire.  
Through you, those who law - less - ly of - fered wor - ship un - to the sun  
and stars of heav - en were them - selves dark - ened and e - clised,  
and all the de - signs of the Ma - gi were brought to nought,  
Mar - tyrs for - ev - er ven - 'ra - ble, the Trin - i - ty's cham - pi - ons,  
the light to those in that dark - ness which is to  
know not the Sav - ior Christ, the true and Chief Shep - herd,  
Who was sac - ri - fied and grant - eth Great Mer - cy to the world.

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3) Ev - 'ry as - sault of suf - frings and pains  
 did ye en - dure with an ex - ceed - ing cou - ra - geous mind;  
 and load - ed like life - less bur - dens up - on ir - ra - tion - al  
 beasts, ye were led to suf - fer — tor - ments more se - vere.  
 And when ye were fierce - ly thrashed, and were beat - en with clubs and staves,  
 and sore - ly wast - ed by most mer - ci - less strips and blows,  
 ye did not re - lent, nei - ther did — ye de - ny our God.  
 Where - fore ye car - ried off the crown of vic - t'ry as con - quer - ors  
 and man - i - fest - ly were num - bered with the di -  
 - vine — Mar - tyr's' com - pa - nies; with them, in - ter - cede — ye  
 that Great Mer - cy and for - give - ness be grant - ed to our souls.