1) When He that plumbeth the hearts of men, O Matthew,

by divine foreknowledge saw thy will to godliness,

He freed thee from the iniquity of the unjust world;

and then He made thee a universal light,

that thou mightest go forth and enlighten brilliantly

the farthest regions of all the world, O great Apostle;

He also bid thee become preeminent,

for thou wast counted worthy to record
His august and divine Gospel for the world.

Do thou therefore entreat Him
to enlighten and to save our souls.

2) Called from a publican unto a disciple,
when thou wast called by the Word Who is beginningless,
and when He urged thee to follow Him and gave thee promise
to make thee share in His Kingdom with Himself,
then, O blessed Matthew, thou didst leave all things behind,
withdraw ing far from all turbulence and worldly turmoil;

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and thou didst zealously follow after Him. Now thou art filled with the ineffable and divine vision of Him, O seer of God. Do thou therefore entreat Him to enlighten and to save our souls.

3) Of old, a man who possessed prophetic foresight saw thee, O Apostle, as a great and holy stone that rolled upon the earth, grinding down the machinations of dark deception that overthrow the soul;

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for, O all-wise Matthew, the en-hypostatic Word

made thee a light of the world entire and a great herald

of truth and righteousness brightly made to shine

with the clear splendor and magnificence

of the Light of Three Suns, O all-honored one.

Do thou therefore entreat Him

to enlighten and to save our souls.