

Vainglory in the Writings of the Holy Fathers (I)

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Abstract

In Greek this passion is called *chenodoxia* (κενοδοξία). This Greek term is composed of words *kenē* which means *empty* and *δόξα* which means *glory*. The word has many meanings and may be translated by *vainglory*. With this meaning *chenodoxia* is synonymous with another term called *ματαιοδοξία*. The second meaning is assumption (δοκησιοφία). The third sense of the term *chenodoxia* is *conceit* (οίηση).

The term *chenodoxia* (κενοδοξία) is found in the writings of Plutarh and Poliviu with the following meanings: vanity, empty glory, pride and desire to be glorified and praised. In addition to the *chenodoxia* noun (κενοδοξία) and the adjective *chenodoxos* (κενόδοξος, η, ον) with the meanings *vain*, *arrogant*, *full of vain glory* in ancient Greek there is a verb *chenodoxeo* (κενοδοξέω) that has the meanings *to have vainglory*, *to be proud*, *to have a high opinion of himself*, *to glorify yourself in vain*.