

# **Dance, O Isaiah**

By Constantine Platis

Published by the Holy Orthodox Metropolis of Boston

Reviewer: Margo Koutlas

I found this book to be a good learning tool for those who are interested in the Orthodox faith and for catechumans. It is also a wealth of information for those of us that are "cradle Orthodox".

The author begins with many questions along with Orthodox answers regarding liturgical practices within the Orthodox Church that we have accepted as tradition, but have never asked the question "why". He covers the many services, and items seen and used in the Church, and discusses questions commonly asked by non-Orthodox for which we as Orthodox laymen rarely have an answer for. Questions relating to the difference between Eastern Orthodoxy and other faiths, i.e. the Roman Catholics and Protestants are discussed at length. The author explains Papal "infallibility", The Filioque, Indulgences, Purgatory and the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, using sources to disprove each dogma and giving the Orthodox Christian answers to these commonly asked differences.

The common statement made by most Protestants is that the Scripture is the only word of God. Here the author touches on fundamentalism, and explains Holy Tradition. He answers commonly asked questions by Protestants with regards to fasting, the Eucharist, faith and works, the Theotokos, prayers, cremation, relics and saints. The author uses as sources for his answers, the Septuagint Old Testament, New Testament, and the writings of the Fathers of the Church.

The reviewer felt the section of the book that discussed the question of childbirth, and the return of the mother to church, was not explained fully, and needs to be addressed in more modern terms.