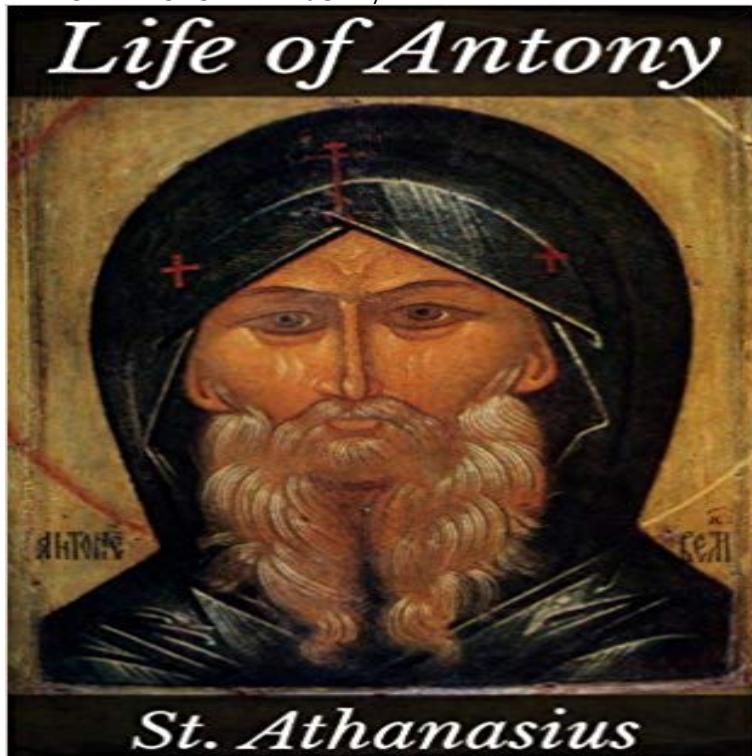


The Life of Antony



The Life of Antony written by St. Athanasius is the earliest source for the life of St. Anthony of the Desert, known as the Father of Monasticism. Anthony was not, in fact, the first Christian monk, but is thought to be the first to choose to live in the desert in seclusion. As a young adult, he decided to follow the words of Jesus in Matt. 19 quite literally: If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasures in heaven; and come, follow Me. He did so, and spent most of his life in isolation in the desert. He fasted, usually eating only bread, and prayed persistently. The Life records Anthony being tested with a number of strange supernatural temptations as well as his performing many miracles. His example inspired many to become his disciples, forming monastic communities in the desert. A large part of the Life consists of his instruction and teaching to other monks encouraging them to resist temptation. St. Anthony is considered the father of Christian monasticism and one of the most important figures in the history of the Church. This Kindle ebook was prepared from a public-domain source which can be found freely online. Hyperlinked table of contents and footnotes are included.

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