

## **Resource Sheet 53**

### **Saint Maximus the Confessor**

A summary of Saint Maximus the Confessor's life. Students should get the sentences in a different order and rearrange them.

*St Maximus learns philosophy, grammar, rhetoric.*

*St Maximus becomes the chief counsellor of the Emperor.*

*The Emperor wants to minimize the importance of differences in belief and decrees that everyone must accept the teaching of one will in the two natures of the Saviour.*

*St Maximus recognizes the decree as political and against the true faith, and defended the Orthodoxy against the decree.*

*St Maximus resigns from his position, becomes a monk and begins teaching that Our Lord had two natures and therefore two wills (human and divine).*

*The Emperor pressurises the Church's faithful into accepting the heresy, but St. Maximus, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, manages to convert many to the true faith.*

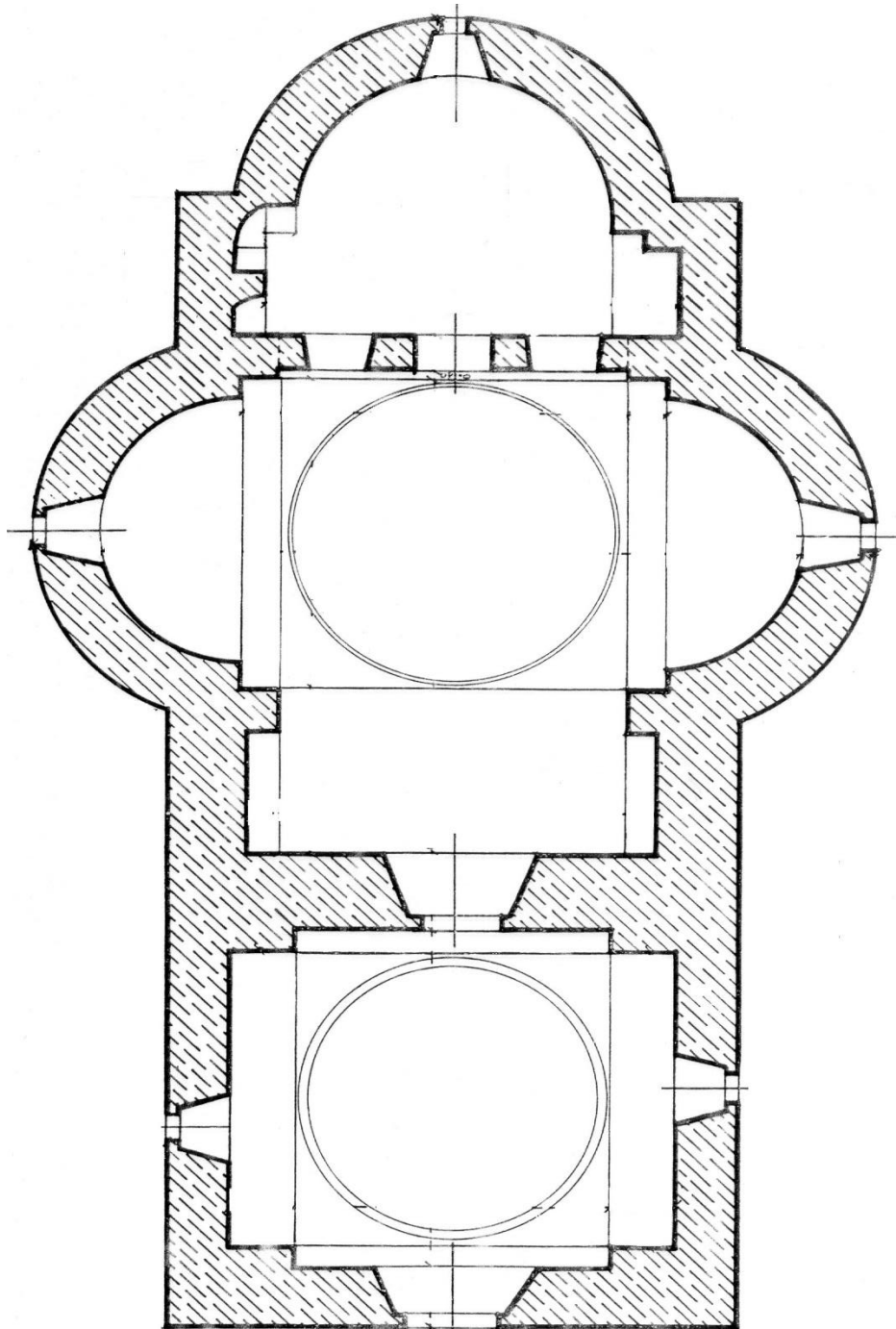
*Seeing that St Maximus and his faith is becoming a political threat, the Emperor accuses him of treason and imprisons him.*

*Before being released and exiled in Scythia, his tongue is cut out and his right hand cut off, to be stopped from spreading the faith.*

*Despite all efforts, many of St. Maximus' works can be found today.*

*He wrote commentaries on the Old and the New Testament, composed hymns, and explained the Divine Liturgy.*

2. "If you are remembering evil against someone, then pray for him; and as you remove through prayer the pain of the remembrance of the evil he has done, you will stop the advance of the passion. And when you have attained brotherly love and love for mankind, you will completely cast this passion out of your soul. Then when someone else does evil to you, be affectionate and humble toward him, and treat him kindly, and you will deliver him from this passion."



1. Can you identify the Narthex, Nave and Altar?
2. How can they be associated with the three stages of entry into the Kingdom of God?