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Nikolaos

*Metropolitan of Mesogaia
and Lavreotiki*

"If only we could invest a moment in the Kingdom of God and realise that the returns are extremely high. So high that in the Kingdom there is no time, no fear, no inhibition, inferiority, insecurity, guilt – none of those things which trouble us in this life. This is the blessing of God's freedom. It is this which we must bring to life within us here on earth, until each one of us

will be able to change from being temporal to being eternal, from being only human to being spiritual."



By inspiring us to act, words can be paths that lead us towards the "other discourse", the ethos of the eighth day, the beauty that will save the world...Such are Metropolitan Nikolaos's words – his previous book in English, *Mount Athos, the Highest Place on Earth*, was greeted as a "spiritual gem... of eternal value". In *Investing in the Kingdom of God*, Metropolitan Nikolaos's insights have substance and wisdom. He deals in an accessible manner with questions that weigh down our human souls. His pastoral counsel is considerate and discerning, focused on the moment, all-the-while with an eye on the path up the Mountain. They are words for our time.



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Investing in the Kingdom of God

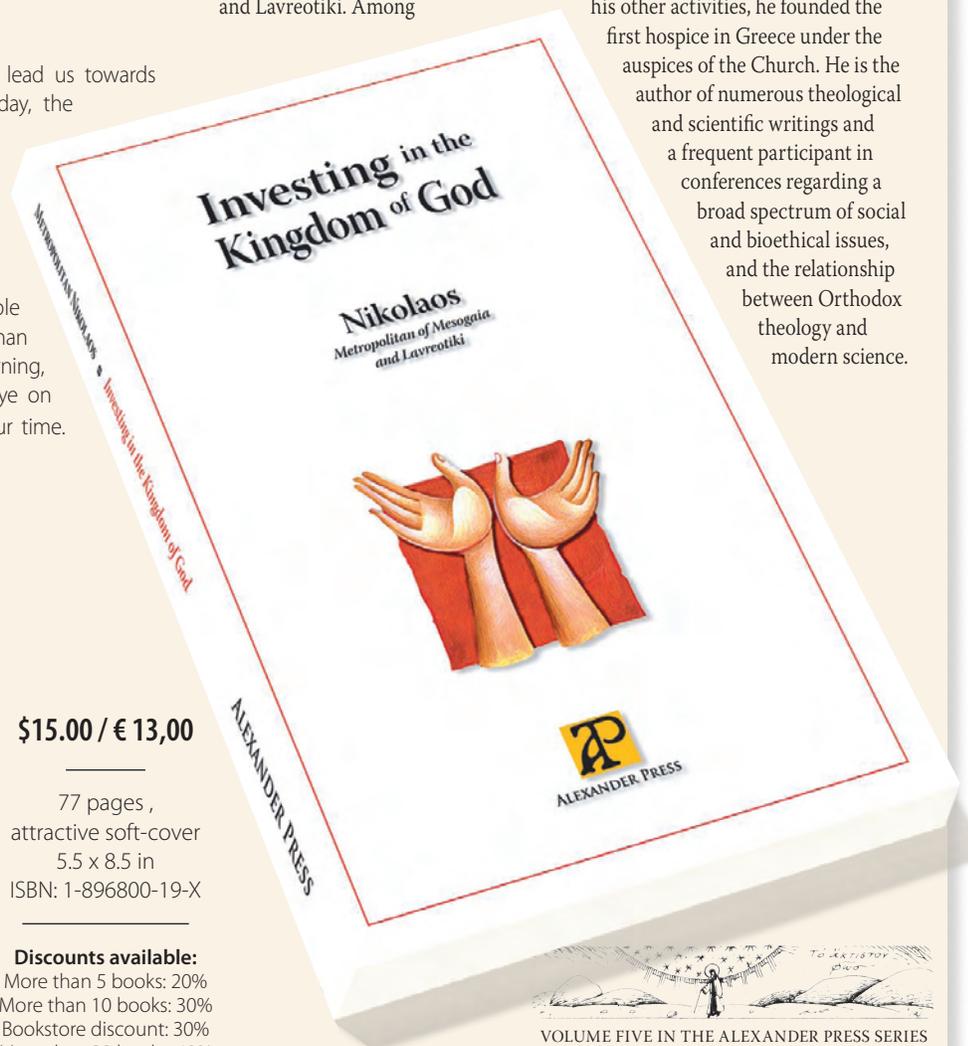
Nikolaos

*Metropolitan of Mesogaia
and Lavreotiki*

Metropolitan Nikolaos (Hatzinikolaou) has degrees in Physics, Astrophysics, Mechanical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering and Applied Mathematics, Theological Studies, and Theology. In 2003, he received a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Thessaloniki on Orthodox Christian Ethics and Bioethics and and has been awarded the honorary title of Doctor of Social Theology by the University of Athens.

He has worked as a researcher and scientific partner in hospitals and as a scientific advisor in Space Medical Technology in the U.S. Upon his return to Greece in 1989, he was tonsured a monk in Mount Athos and then ordained a deacon and a priest. In 2004, he was elected a Metropolitan of Mesogaia and Lavreotiki. Among

his other activities, he founded the first hospice in Greece under the auspices of the Church. He is the author of numerous theological and scientific writings and a frequent participant in conferences regarding a broad spectrum of social and bioethical issues, and the relationship between Orthodox theology and modern science.



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