

The Spiritual Ascent on the Scale of the Virtues in the Mystical Thinking of Saint Maximus the Confessor

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Abstract

After our first article on the introduction of mystical thinking of St. Maximus the Confessor, we continue this analysis with the root of the passionate life: self-love. Love implies a true relation with God, but self-love is its perversion, it is the source of human tyranny and disorder. Also, we debate in our text, in accordance with the writings of St. Maximus, the covetousness of the womb and the sinful sorrow, the vain glory and the pride. In the last part, we demonstrate how the spiritual ascent on the ladder of virtues can achieve the redemption of the bodily life. Those who succeed make it not by their power, but through the grace of the Holy Spirit. The way of all virtue is the knowledge of God and the foundation of godliness is faith, hope and love.