

[photocopie]

Auteur : Foucault, Michel

Présentation de la fiche

Coteb022_f0303

SourceBoite_022-8-chem | Gerson.

LangueFrançais

TypePhotocopie

RelationNumérisation d'un manuscrit original consultable à la BnF, département des Manuscrits, cote NAF 28730

Références éditoriales

Éditeuréquipe FFL (projet ANR *Fiches de lecture de Michel Foucault*) ; projet EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle).

Droits

- Image : Avec l'autorisation des ayants droit de Michel Foucault. Tous droits réservés pour la réutilisation des images.
- Notice : équipe FFL ; projet EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle). Licence Creative Commons Attribution - Partage à l'Identique 3.0 (CC BY-SA 3.0 FR).

Notice créée par [équipe FFL](#) Notice créée le 21/10/2020 Dernière modification le 23/04/2021

300 P Bolen J

Account of
Nigredo spirituum
is Gerson's
De nobilitate
spirituum
1959
(Warkentin)

CHAPTER IV

TRANSLATION OF *DE PROBATIONE SPIRITUUM*¹

1 *I Reflection*: St. John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, commands: *Test the spirits to see whether they are of God* (1 John 4:1). Nor was he unaware of the exhortation of his fellow apostle (St. Paul), who said: *Satan himself disguises himself as an angel of light* (2 Cor. 11:14) so that he is able to carry out his diabolical schemes at mid-day while being temporarily permitted to conceal the darkness of error as he pretends to bear the bright light of truth. This deception was disclosed before the very eyes of St. Martin. Many others also perceived this deception, although not with their bodily eyes. St. Bernard relates that Satan conceals mortal sin which he inspires and tempts one to commit under the appearance of doing something great and lofty.

2 *II Reflection*: The gift of discerning spirits to see

¹ *Opera Omnia Joannis Gersonii* (ed. Elies du Pin, Antwerp 1706) 1, 43-59. Translator's note: This treatise was written by Gerson in 1415 while the Council of Constance was in session. In it he formulates some norms by which the visions and revelations of Bridget of Sweden could be evaluated in view of her canonization process which was then under consideration by the Council.

Under twelve headings or reflections (*considerationes*), Gerson sets forth his norms for the testing or discernment of spirits. Arabic numbers designate corresponding paragraphs of the text and commentary, the latter following the translated text in this chapter.

As previously noted, Gerson draws copiously upon the writings of the Desert Fathers, the Fathers of the Church, especially St. Augustine, St. Bernard, the Latin poets, etc., to illustrate his points or to lend authority to his opinions. Since these references are well known to theologians, or are not of much importance, it was not considered necessary to document all of them. Rather, attention is mainly directed to and concentrated on Gerson's doctrine.

Our research has not disclosed an English translation of this work of Gerson, and therefore, ours would seem to be the first such translation to be published.

