

Perpetual Inspiration

By: William Law

Nothing in the natural man can help him to be light and love,
but the union of God with himself.

How unreasonable is it to call perpetual inspiration – the perpetual operation of the Holy Spirit in the believer- fanaticism and enthusiasm? The fact is that there cannot be the least degree of goodness or happiness in any intelligent being abut that which is its whole nature – its very breath of life – the operation of God in the life of the creature. For if goodness can only be in God, if goodness cannot exist separate from Him – if He only can bless and sanctify, not by a creaturely gift, but by Himself becoming the blessing and sanctification of the creature – then it is the highest degree of blindness to look for any goodness and happiness from anything else. It can only come from the immediate indwelling, union with, and operation of the Deity in the life of the creature. Perpetual inspiration, there, is as necessary to a life of goodness, holiness, and happiness, as the perpetual respiration of the air is necessary to animal life.

For the life of the creature – mankind – whilst only creaturely, and possessing nothing but itself, is hell; that is, it is all pain and want and distress. Now nothing in the natural man can make the least alteration in this creaturely life, nothing can help him to be in him, and the life of God working in him, because nothing but God is light, and love, and heavenly goodness. And therefore, if the life of God is not the life and goodness of the creature, then the creature cannot have any degree of goodness in itself.

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