

But those were not the favors which he desired, nor which he had ever desired. And he kept those favors so secret and concealed, except to those from whom he could not in conscience conceal anything, that he never spoke of them, nor even gave any one at all the least indication of them. And the conclusion which he drew from them, every time, was to humiliate himself further, to distrust himself, to esteem himself the least of the household, and to fear lest the Devil should deceive him. Finally, he never guided himself by these visions, although often God had [72] given him to understand things, afar off, and even gave him great illuminations in the secret place of conscience, and in the depth of the heart. But he guided himself solely by the principles of the Faith, through the operations of obedience and the lights of reason.

One day, speaking in prayer to Our Lord, and saying to him, *Domine, quid me vis facere?* — he heard this answer, which Jesus Christ formerly made to St. Paul: *Vade ad Ananiam, et ipse dicet tibi quid te oporteat facere.* And from that time he was so confirmed in the resolutions which he had, of never seeking other guidance than that of obedience, that I may say, in truth, that this virtue was perfect in him,—seeing only God in the person of the Superior, discovering his heart to him with a child's simplicity, showing an entire docility to the answers which were given him, and acquiescing without resistance in everything which was said to him, although contrary to his natural inclinations,—not only in that which appeared to the eyes of men, but in the depth of his heart, where he knew that God sought the true obedience.