

WILLIAM OF SAINT-THIERRY ON THE HOLY SPIRIT AS UNITY

THE MIRROR OF FAITH (SPECULUM FIDEI)

—SECTION 23—

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE UNITY OF THE FATHER AND THE SON

THE knowledge which the Father and the Son have of each other is their very unity. That unity is the Holy Spirit. Their mutual knowledge is none other than the divine substance in which They are one. With such a knowledge, no one knows the Father but the Son, and no one knows the Son but the Father, and those to whom He reveals the Son.⁶¹ These are Our Lord's own words. Father and Son do, in fact, reveal this knowledge to whom They will, that is, those to whom They give the Holy Spirit Who is their common knowing and their common will. Those to whom the Father and the Son reveal each other, know the Father and Son even as They know each other, for they have the Holy Spirit within them. Thus they have within them the will and the love of Father and Son, their unity, and their mutual knowledge of each other.

NOTE: ⁶¹ Saint Matthew 11:27.

—William of Saint-Thierry (between 1070 and 85–1148), Cluniac Abbot of Saint-Thierry or Theoderic, later (from 1135), Cistercian monk at Signy, section 23 of his *The Mirror of Faith* (*Speculum fidei*, written between 1142 and 44), translated from the Latin by Geoffrey Webb and Adrian Walker, and published by A. R. Mowbray & Co., London, in 1959, page 65.

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