

THE THREE LEVELS OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE AND THEIR CORRESPONDING EFFECTS

LEVEL IN SPIRITUAL LIFE	VIRTUES AT EACH STAGE	GIFTS AT EACH STAGE	PURIFICATIONS AT EACH STAGE	PRAYERS AT EACH STAGE	Corresponding Mansions of St. Teresa
<p><u>THE BEGINNERS</u> (The Purgative Way) <i>The Ascetical Life</i></p> <p><u>Joyful Mysteries</u></p> <p>habitual state of grace; desire for perfection</p>	<p>Initial Virtues: first degrees of humility first degree of charity, temperance, chastity, patience.</p>	<p>The Gifts of the Holy Ghost in a latent way; inspirations at rare intervals, with a slight aptitude as yet to profit by them. The soul is especially conscious of its own personal activity.</p>	<p>Active purification of the senses and of the spirit, or exterior and interior mortification, in order to detach oneself more and more from attachment or tendency to commit mortal sin.</p>	<p>Acquired Prayer: vocal prayer, discursive prayer, affective prayer, which becomes more simple—called the prayer of active recollection.</p>	<p>First, second and third mansions</p>
<p><u>THE PROFICIENT</u> (The Illuminative Way) <i>At Threshold of the Mystical Life</i></p> <p><u>Sorrowful Mysteries</u></p> <p>avoid venial sins; love penance; much order & recollection; use time well; works of charity</p>	<p>Solid Virtues: more profound degree of humility; second degree of charity; obedience; spirit of counsels.</p>	<p>The Gifts of the Holy Ghost begin to manifest themselves, especially the three inferior <u>gifts of fear, knowledge and piety</u>. The soul, more docile now, profits more from inspirations and interior illuminations.</p>	<p>Passive purification of the senses, by detachment from persons, places, and things of this world, under the influence especially of the gifts of fear and knowledge. <u>Concomitant trials</u>. Progressive detachment from all venial sins. Entrance into the illuminative way.</p>	<p>Initial Infused Prayer: isolated acts of infused contemplation in the course of the acquired prayer of recollection; the, prayers of supernatural recollection and of arid or consoled quiet. The gift of piety.</p>	<p>Fourth and fifth mansions</p>
<p><u>THE PERFECT</u> (The Unitive Way) <i>The Mystical Life</i></p> <p><u>Glorious Mysteries</u></p> <p>perpetual presence of God; detached; silence; solitude; love of God only virtue; perpetual prayer</p>	<p>Eminent and Heroic Virtues: third degree of charity; perfect humility; great spirit of faith; abandonment; almost unalterable patience.</p>	<p>The higher Gifts of the Holy Ghost manifest themselves more notably and frequently. Soul dominated by Holy Ghost. Great passivity in His regard, which does not exclude the activity of the virtues.</p>	<p>Purification of the spirit under the influence especially of the gift of understanding. <u>Concomitant trials</u> in which are manifested the gifts of fortitude and of counsel. The soul refuses to go back to being attached to the world—yet at the same time God seems to reject the soul. Entrance into the perfect unitive way.</p>	<p>Infused Prayers of simple union, of complete union (sometimes ecstatic), of transforming union, under the more and more marked influence of the gift of wisdom. Concomitant favors.</p>	<p>Sixth and seventh mansions</p>