30 SELF-ABANDONMENT TO DIVINE PROVIDENCE

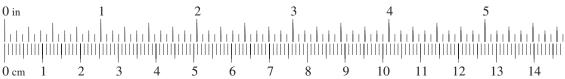
thy word; they wish to reform it; they abandon themselves with complete license to excesses, the least of which would be an unheard-of crime if it concerned a single comma in the Holy Scriptures. But the Holy Scriptures they respect. It is the Word of God, they say, everything contained in them is holy and true. If they do not understand their meaning they venerate them the more; they give glory and justly adore the depths of the wisdom of God. This is quite right. But what God says to you, dear souls, the words he pronounces from moment to moment, the substance of which is not paper and ink but what you suffer, what you have to do from moment to moment, does this deserve no attention from you? Why in all that do you not respect the truth and the Will of God. Nothing pleases you, you criticize everything that happens. Do you not see that you are measuring by the standard of the senses and the reason what can only be measured by Faith, and that reading, as you do, with the eyes of Faith the word of God in Holy Scripture, you are greatly in the wrong to read it with any other eyes in his operations.

§ 5

The divine action continues in our hearts the revelation commenced in Holy Scripture; but the characters in which it is written will only be visible on the Great Day.

'Jesus Christ,' says the Apostle, 'the same yesterday, today and for ever.' From the origins of the world, he was, as God, the principle of the life of the just; from the first instant of his incarnation his humanity participated in this prerogative of his divinity. He works in us all through our life; the time which will elapse before the end of the world is but a day and this day is filled with him. Jesus Christ has lived in the past and still lives in the present; he began in himself and continues in his Saints a life that will never finish. O life of Jesus which





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