

ophers, so the defenders of sacred science draw many arguments from the store of philosophy which may serve to uphold revealed dogma." If a Scholastic were to ask an Atheist why he denies God's existence, the unbeliever would attempt to explain his position by an appeal to philosophy. If a Scholastic were to ask a contemporary thinker why he does not admit a Triune God, philosophy would again be resorted to. Then why the expostulations when the Scholastic employs reason to justify his religious convictions? Is a philosopher of the Scholastic school a theological Midas who by his touch converts reason into faith?

To sum up: There exists no opposition between faith and reason. Reason reigns supreme in its proper field. Faith is autonomous in the sphere of knowledge belonging to it alone, but because the science of philosophy seeks the last causes of every knowable entity it has the right to investigate the possibility or impossibility of supernatural truths. Finally, there is a domain of knowledge common to both faith and reason. In this field, philosophy and theology are not identified but are two distinct sciences between which there exists a correlative relation. The philosopher enables the theologian reasonably to accept the content of revelation. The theologian gives the philosopher the protective norm of faith.

The assertion of non-Scholastic thinkers that our processes of reasoning are an empty show and discussion with us is futile, would be true if our philosophy were subjected unreservedly to ecclesiastical authority. Does such a blind subservience exist? No; for if it did its effect would be twofold: Scholastics would merit the contempt of their associates in the field of philosophical thought, and ecclesiastical authority would defeat its purpose in adopting the Scholastic system. The end it has in view is to prove to others that faith is reasonable, and if authority converts reason into blind obedience, no rational person would expect this end to be accomplished.

Joseph the Just

BRO. NICHOLAS WALSH, O. P.

Silent, patient in his labors,
Ever faithful to his trust,
In the morn, at noon, at even,
Was Saint Joseph ever Just.