

Lectio divina: the conditions, the means and the dangers

Summary

Throughout the centuries diverse methods of the reading of sacred scriptures were elaborated today there are others being added. Through these the particular position, not to say especially, occupies, and in some manner it repeats an old method of the letter of the bible, in the spirit of prayer, which is lectio divina. In the present article there are omitted questions regarding definitions, methods, instruments and means of lectio divina. All the attention was instead placed on the necessary conditions of the correct procedure and the help and dangers linked to the exercise. It is important, because the diversity of the points, the degrees and the phases proposed in the realization of it create an inadequate conviction, that every form – sufficient that it contains the elements indicated by the authors as necessary in contact with the Word of God – almost automatically becomes a lectio divina. More precisely: lectio divina is not solely one method or a model to practise the Bible, but it is an expression of it, the style of being Christian, it functions in the right way, when from the practice of the reading it may change into a true spiritual life – that is lectio of living.