

who wish to be guided by their own false science ; who ridicule the just, living according to the wisdom of God. The servants of Christ submit patiently to the bitter sarcasms and insults of these false sages, because a day will come in which they will hear them repeat the worthless lamentations of the damned : (Book of Wisdom v) « These are the just, whom we had sometime in derision, and for a parable of reproach. We fools esteemed their life madness, and their end without honor. Behold how they are numbered among the children of God, and their lot is among the saints. Therefore, we have erred from the way of truth, and the light of justice hath not shined unto us, and the sun of understanding hath not risen upon us. We wearied ourselves in the way of iniquity and destruction, and have walked through hard ways, but the way of the Lord we have not known. What hath pride profited us ? or what advantage hath the boasting of riches brought us ? All these things are passed away like a shadow, and we are consumed in our wickedness. But the just shall live forever more ; and their reward is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. »

These fruitless lamentations are from the damned, who during life were guided by the false wisdom of this world. With what earnestness then should not a mother invoke the wisdom of God. She would soon understand that the only true knowledge is that which will guide her and her family conformably to the Will of God. Directed by the Eternal Wisdom, she would refrain from educating her children according to the world's ideas and its perverse maxims. She would teach them the inconstancy of human things, the way to salvation and the necessity of preparing for eternity.

Meditating in a similar manner upon the other attributes of God, a mother would soon acquire a sufficient knowledge of her Creator, to make her place that study above all others. She may say she has no time. It is more frequently a want of taste than a want of time, that is lacking. If leisure hours can be found for idle gossip, and the reading of the newest sensational novel, or the journals that illustrate the latest fashion, surely, she can devote at least one quarter of an hour every day, to the reading of some serious book treating of God and of His mercies to man, for instance, the life of some saint. That book will teach who God is : and from the examples of that saint she will learn that « to know God is perfect justice and to know His justice and His power is the root of immortality. » (Wisdom xv. 13)

When St Thomas of Aquino was only five years old, he was one day playing under the old oak trees surrounding the monastery of Mount