

as the clerk so the layman, as the canon so the monk.

The theologian passes away, and so the astronomer, the physician and all that are skilled in any art. Behold, all things perish, but to love God and live justly!

## CHAPTER VIII.

### ON THE DEVOTION OF THE HOLY KING DAVID IN PRAYER.

1. "Quis enim in omnibus sicut David fidelis." (Ant. Eccl.)

"For who among all was as faithful David," hastening to the kingdom of the heavenly king? In the day he was a brave soldier, fighting against his enemies, and in the night, a devout monk, praying with sighs and tears for the sins he had committed. But, above all, he poured out his grateful thanks to God, for the innumerable mercies specially vouchsafed to him, and for all others conferred on every creature whom he had wonderfully created and adorned to the glory of his holy name.

And yet, lest pride might creep in for the good he had received, he calls out in his praise. "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to thy name give glory." (Ps. cxiii. 1-9.) And lest he should fall under his adversaries, he exclaims: "Be thou my helper," O Lord, "forsake me not." (Ps. xxvi. 9.) And lest he should be ever ungrateful, he says: "Blessed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth, now, and for ever." (Ps. cxii. 1.)

## CHAPTER IX.

### ON POVERTY OF SPIRIT FOR CHRIST'S SAKE.

1. "Tanquam nihil habentes," in

hoc mundo, "et omnia possidentes," cum Christo. (2 Cor. vi. 10.)

"As having nothing," in this world, "and possessing all things," with Christ.

O holy poverty of spirit, to be beloved above all the honours and riches of this world, which Christ taught and kept unto the end of his life, and forsook all things entirely, for our example.

For this, how many wise and noble, how many rich and powerful have forsaken all to follow Christ, and made a voluntary choice of it, for the sake of the kingdom of heaven?

O how great is the liberty of the pure soul, that, for the love of Jesus, desireth to have none of the pomp and circumstance of this vain world!

Verily, what great security of conscience, and joy of heart it is to live in subjection and obedience, and for the sake of Jesus Christ crucified to deny oneself even unto death?

O how heavenly is the manna, hid to the proud, but revealed unto the humble, growing up in the innocent, and tasted by the devout, who for their special consolation worship Christ who suffered and was crucified for them!

## CHAPTER X.

### ON THE SIMPLE BROTHER'S STUDY OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST.

"Salus tua ego sum, dicit Dominus." (Ps. xlvii. 7.)

"I am thy salvation, saith the Lord."

The simple and innocent brother findeth more sanctity and purity, and more knowledge and prudence, against all the wickedness of the devil, the errors of the world, and the filth of vices, in the life and passion of our Lord, than does the lofty speculator and subtle dis-