

## Spiritual Testimonies 54-55-56-57-60

Saint Teresa of Avila

### 54. Vision of Father Gratian

(Seville, 1575)

One night, distressed because I had not heard from my Father who had not been well ... My affliction though was not like it had been when I first heard of his illness; for now I had confidence ... My concern however hindered my prayer.

He suddenly appeared to me, in such a way that it couldn't have been my imagination. A **light** appeared in the **interior of my soul**. I beheld him coming along the road, happy and with a **white countenance** by reason of the **light**, as do all those in heaven.

I wondered if the **light** and **brilliance** from our Lord makes them white. I heard: "**Tell him to begin at once without fear, for his is the victory.**"

2. ... While I was praising our Lord for having granted me so many favors, the Lord said to me: "**What do you ask of Me, my daughter, that I do not do?**"

### 55. The Feast of the Presentation of our Lady in the Temple

(Seville, Nov. 21, 1575)

1. The day the **brief** was presented, I was troubled and could not even pray vocally. I had been told that Father's life was in danger. There were many rumors.

Apparently he was not able to leave the monastery. I heard these words: "**O woman of little faith! Be calm, for things are going very well.**"

2. On the feast day of the Presentation of our Lady 1575, I resolved to ask the Virgin to obtain from her Son that we both see our Father (Gratian) and ourselves **freed** from these friars. If granted I would ask our Father that this **feast be celebrated with solemnity** in all the monasteries of discolored nuns.

3. When I made this resolve, I did not recall what I had seen in the **vision**. Father would establish a feast. Re-reading the little notebook, I wondered if it was the Presentation.

### 56. Infused understanding of a Magnificat Verse

(Seville, 1575 or 1576)

While in prayer one day, I felt my soul deep in God. It did not seem there was a world. While immersed in Him, understanding of that Magnificat verse, *et exultavit spiritus*, (my spirit has exulted ...) was given me in such a way I cannot forget it.

### 57. Revelation about the Survival of her Carmel

(Seville, Spring, 1576)

Once thinking about their desire to suppress this monastery of discolored nuns, and whether it was their intention little by little to put an end to them all. I heard: "**They are attempting this, but will not succeed—on the contrary.**"

### 60. Changing Confessors

(Toledo, Aug.-Sept., 1576)

I had begun to confess to someone ... who had accepted to guide my soul but then he suddenly discontinued coming here.

While in prayer one night ... I understood that God had kept him from coming because I was to **discuss my soul** with **someone else**. This was a **burden** as I did not know this new person ... and loved the first one who was so charitable towards me.

However, whenever I heard this new person preach he brought me **spiritual consolation**. It still seemed inappropriate though because he had many **duties**.

The Lord said to me: "**I shall bring it about that he listen to and understand you. Open your soul to him, for some help will come from your troubles.**"

The latter was said because I was weary of being separated from God. His Majesty told me that He clearly was aware of my trial but that in this exile it could not be otherwise. He also said that all was for my greater good and He consoled me greatly.

As it turned out, this other person is happy to listen to me. He finds the time, has understood me and given me great comfort. He is a very learned and holy man. Amen