

Lectio: Afraid of Guigo's Ladder?



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John Climacus

The Ladder of Divine
Ascent

(12th c)



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Guigo II

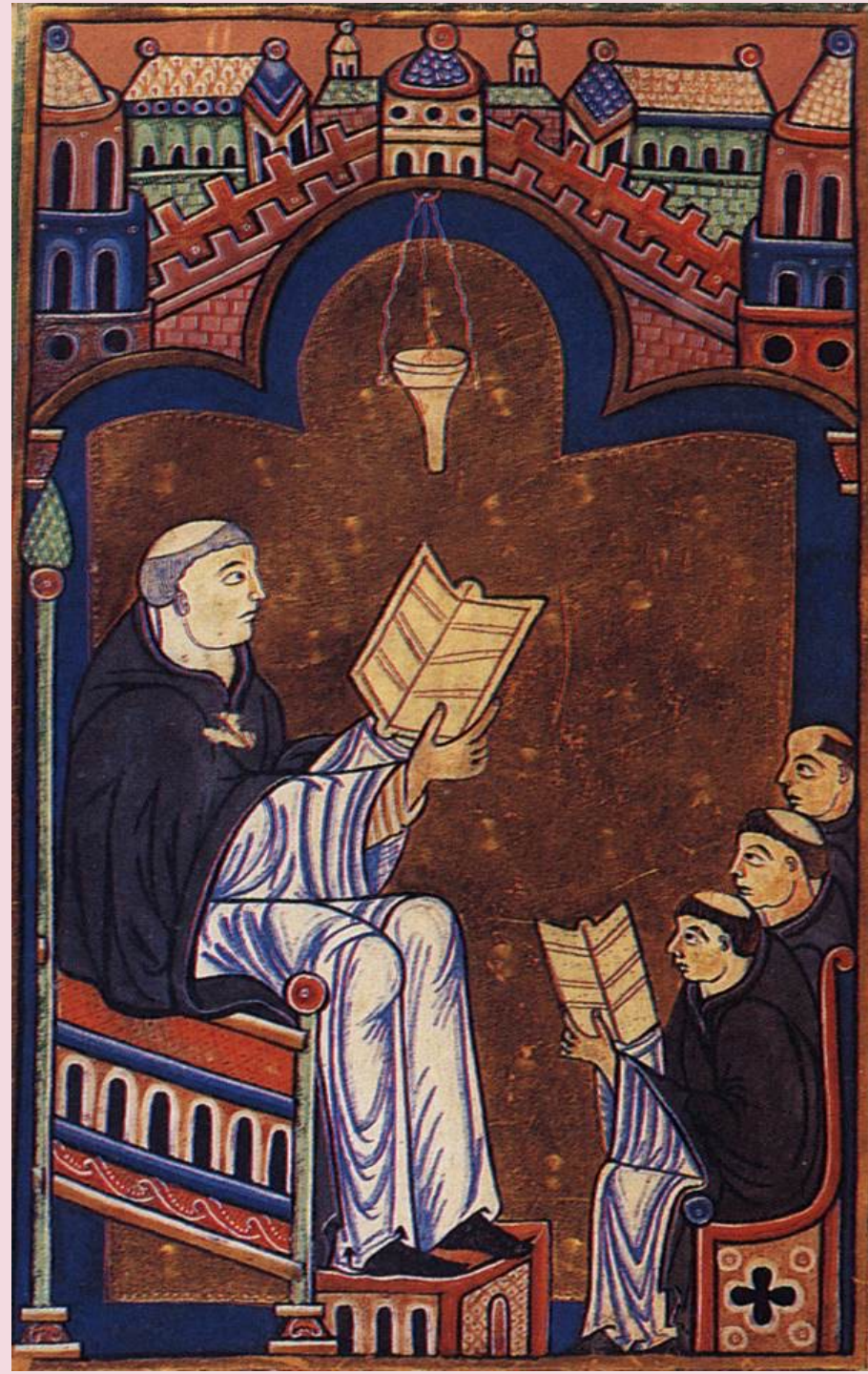
Grande Chartreuse

The Ladder of Monks
(*Scala Caustralium*)

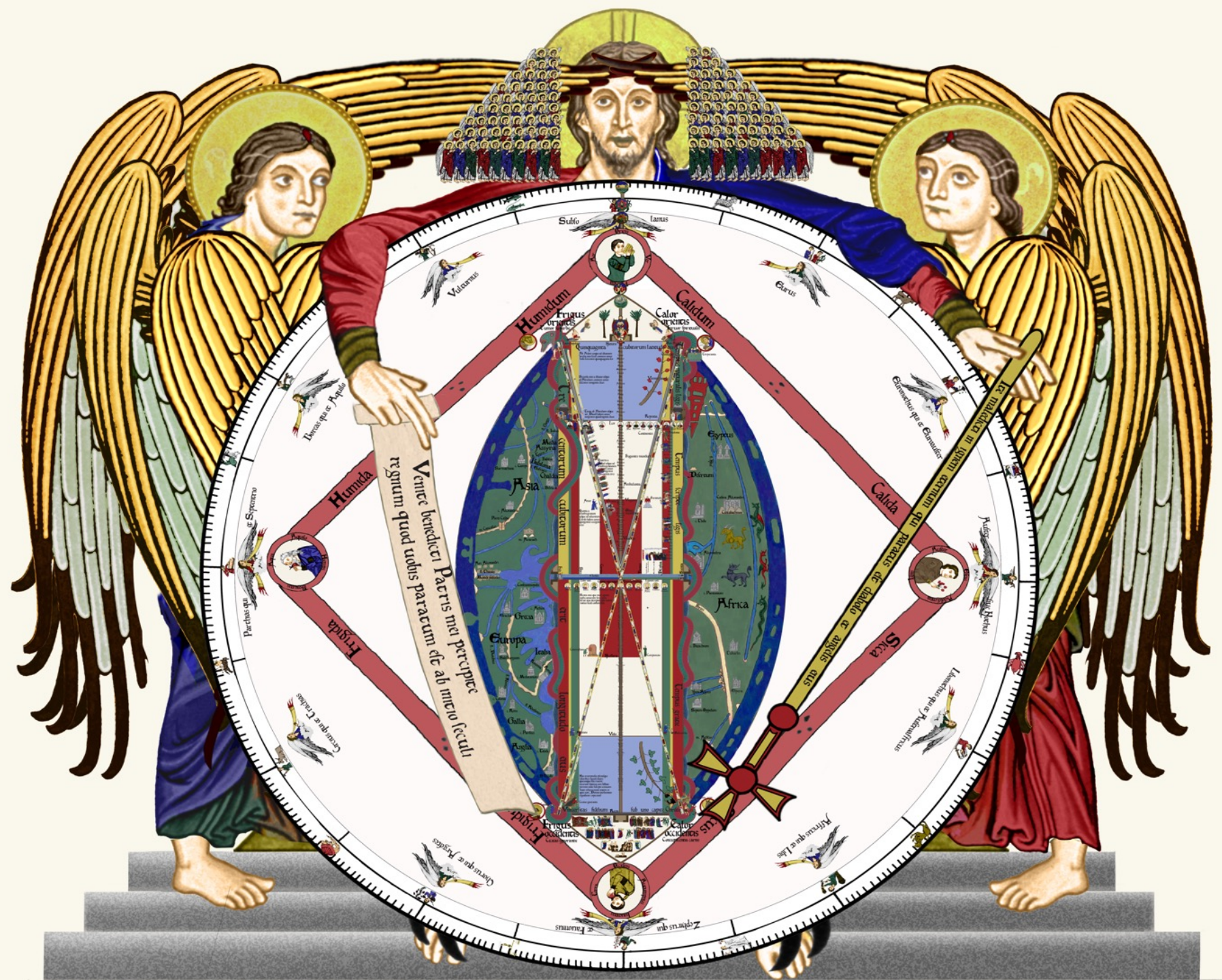


Rungs	Level of Meaning	Food metaphors	Characteristics	Spiritual Maturity	Divine Assistance
Lectio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literal meaning • Careful study of Scripture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeks • Puts food in the mouth • Rind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing the outward words read • Outward sense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginners 	<p>Natural</p> <p>“The good and the wicked alike can read and meditate.”</p>
Meditatio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegorical meaning • Rational search for hidden truth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceives • Chews and breaks food • Smells • Digs (for treasure) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goes to the heart • Inward Understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficients 	
Oratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tropological meaning • Devoted turning to God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks • Extracts food’s flavor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longing for experiential meaning • Sobblings and tears 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devotees 	<p>Supernatural</p> <p>“We can do nothing without Him. It is He who achieves our works in us, and yet not entirely without us.”</p>
Contemplatio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anagogical meaning • The mind lifted up beyond itself to God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tastes • Sweetness itself • Consolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstrips every faculty • Experience • Transfiguration • Merely temporary • Vision of God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blessed 	

Meditatio:
Swirling Thoughts around the Ark



Meditatio



Meditatio: Swirling Thoughts around the Ark



Meditatio: Swirling Thoughts around the Ark



***Meditatio*: Swirling Thoughts around the Ark**



Oratio: Praying with Tears

John Climacus

- Compunction (*katanyxis*)
- Mourning (*penthos*)
- Joyful sorrow (*charmalyptē*)

Bernard: *liber experientiae*

Anselm, *Prayers and Meditations*

Augustine: Rivers as sacrifice (Ps. 51)



Oratio: Praying with Tears

Aelred of Rievaulx, *Jesus at the Age of Twelve*

Bethlehem

- Bread of Angels (Ps. 78)
- Taste and see (Ps. 34)
- Bread of Tears (Ps. 80; 102)



Contemplatio: Sitting at the Feet of Jesus

Augustine of Hippo

Aelred of Rievaulx

Thomas Aquinas



Contemplatio: Sitting at the Feet of Jesus

	Typology (Luke 10)	Content	Rationale
Active life #1		Teaching and preaching	Proceeds from contemplation
Contemplative life	Mary	Prayer and study	Seeks the end for its own sake
Active life #2	Martha	Outward occupations (almsgiving, hospitality, etc.)	Restricts itself to external actions