

If a Brother

by St. Benedict of Nursia

A brother who leaves the monastery must promise full reparation and demonstrate humility before being allowed to return.

Scripture: Proverbs 24:16, Luke 15:11, James 4:10, 1 John 1:9

Topics: "Repentance", "Humility"

Description

St. Benedict of Nursia emphasizes the importance of humility and repentance for those who wish to return to the monastery after leaving due to their own fault. He instructs that the returning brother must promise full reparation for leaving and be received in the lowest place to test his humility. If the brother leaves again, he should be taken back repeatedly, but after the third time, he must understand that all ways of return are denied to him.

Transcript

If a brother who through his own fault leaves the monastery should wish to return, let him first promise full reparation for his having gone away; and then let him be received in the lowest place, as a test of his humility. And if he should leave again, let him be taken back again, and so a third time; but he should understand that after this all way of return is denied him.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/st-benedict-of-nursia/if-a-brother/>

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