

Fire vs. Light

Fire is the source;
light is emanation.
Fire is conflagration;
light is illumination.

Light dazzles the intellect,
and delights in
knowledge;
fire consumes the will,
and ravishes by
love.

Light follows teaching,
and seeks understanding;
fire favors fervor,
and savors ardor.

Light is the
brightness of the day
and heads for clarity;
fire is the
darkness of the night,
for it immerses in mystery.

Light delights in
explanation and research;
fire delves into
prayer and longing.

Light points out
the path;
fire fuels
the pursuit.

Since, therefore,
St. Bonaventure
reminds us that
our spiritual journey
is not merely
towards God,
but radically
into God,
we should be guided
by the light,
but the goal is
consummation
in His fire.

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