LIMITING  LIMITS

LIFE  LIMITATIVE

Life (spiritual) [DIE. Life]; Ger. Geistesleben; Fr. vie spiri- tuelle; Ital. vita spirituale; (p). The activity of a self-con- scious being which gives rise to moral and religious experiences.

In theology, the divine life which is manifest in Christ, and in which the believer is by faith enabled to participate.

The spiritual life represents the central mystery of the Christian faith. The new birth involves the overthrowing of the old carnal life and the putting on of a new life, of which the central principle is the spiritual energy of Jesus Christ. In the New Testament, the spiritual life is not only represented as ideally rich and complete, but as in its entire essence in life.

Light: see Vision.

Light of Nature [trans. of Lat. natura animata or animata; a term used by Aquinas, Summa Theologica, Pt. 1, q. 12, art. 3, and elsewhere. It is not necessary to suppose that he borrowed the term from the passage of Aristotle's De Anima, 450 a 1, where the light of nature in Aristotle is compared with light. Ger. natürliche Leuchte; Fr. lumière naturelle; Ital. lume naturale (Galilei). A natural power, or instinct, by which men are led to the truth about matters which concern them, in anticipation of experience or accident. See LIGHT.]

The phrase is used, in contradistinction to supernatural light. Tucker's Light of Nature is a book written as a mild answer against Locke and the Associationists in the direction of the philosophy of common sense.


Likeness or Resemblance (modifications of) [Lat. simile, like; Ger. Ähnlichkeit; Fr. ressemblance; Ita. somiglianza; Eng. resemblance]. Two mental objects are said to be alike for concreteness when in respect to certain features they resemble each other. This is merely a rain-drop? Answer: Another rain-drop.

Theories of likeness are based on partial identity, the two mental objects (cf. Resemblance).

Likeness in its most general sense is a relation of resemblance or identity, and in its most extended sense it includes identity of function, at least in the ordinary sense of the word.