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The power of the soul (Elder Joseph of Vatopaidi)

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In accordance with the teachings of our God-bearing Fathers, the powers of the soul are four: wisdom, prudence, courage and righteousness. These act through the

so-called 'tripartite' nature of the soul, that is; the intelligent, incensive and appetitive (the soul's desiring power). Wisdom's task is to stimulate the incensive aspect; that of prudence or knowledge is to motivate the intelligent aspect to watchfulness and discernment; that of righteousness to direct the appetitive faculty towards virtue and God; and that of courage to regulate the five senses so that they take proper initiatives.