Kierkegaard’s psychological perspective on human nature is developed in *The Concept of Anxiety* and *The Sickness unto Death*. The pseudonymous authors of these works define the human being as a synthesis of body and soul sustained by the spirit. From this initial agreement, Anti-Climacus deepens and discusses the meaning of psychology understood as a “new science”. Unlike the epistemological orientation of Haufniensis, the psychology of Anti-Climacus is oriented by the ethical ideal of “the edifying”. This explains the appearance of the notion of “self-consciousness” in *The Sickness unto Death*, arising from the identification of the spirit with the self, which Haufniensis had not raised. Edification presupposes both a conscious task on the part of the self that seeks to become itself, and the very responsibility to face it. Refusal of that task is understood as a “spiritual illness”, despair, whose only medicine is found in the faith of authentic Christianity.