35 The ear (*Auris*)

The ear (*auris*)[[1]](#endnote-1) is said to be from drawing water (*hauriendo*), because it is disposed to the drawing in of words. But some have the right ear cut off as the servant of the high priest, they wish to hear nothing that pertains to the right, but only what pertains to the left, Matt. 26[:51]. The sign of perpetual servitude was in the escaped slave the perforation of the ear. Thus, when someone of you is the servant of Christ, he is purchased by him. His sign of servitude in perpetuity is to hear his word.

According to Aristotle, *De animalibus*, book 5, chapter 4,[[2]](#endnote-2) a swine when first ready to conceive is when she inclines the ear. To hearing the word of God, Psal. [16:6], hear daughter and see and “incline your ear.” Apo. 3[:6]: “He that has an ear for hearing, let him hear what the Spirit says.” And Prov. 28[:9], the penalty of those not hearing, where it is said, “He that turns away his ears from hearing the law, his prayer shall be as abomination.” And Eccli. 3[:31]: “A good ear will hear wisdom with all desire.”

1. Hugh of Pisa, *Derivationes* A 2 [1] (2:7): Hec **AURIS** dicitur ab haurio eo quod hauriat sonum, vel auris quasi avide rapiens, et est ethimologia, non compositio.... [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Aristotle, *History of Animals* 5.14, 546a26-28 (Barnes 1:862): The sow is sure of conception if it drops its lugs in rutting time; if the ears do not thus drop, it may have to rut a second time before impregnation takes place. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)