362 To Hold (*Tenere*)

A man in danger holds and apprehends whatever he thinks can help him, 1 Thes. 5[:21]: “Hold fast that which is good.” But we here are in danger and we believe that we can be saved through Christ. Therefore, let us hold on to him firmly, Heb. 4[:14]: “Having a great high priest that has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God: let us hold fast our confession.” For he has made us as if a bridge to heaven beyond all the perils of the world. Therefore, just as the blind man holds his leader firmly, so also, we should hold on to him, Apo. 3[:11]: “Hold fast that which you have, that no man takes your crown.” And of this matter, a fish holds fast to a rock in the bottom of the sea until the tempest passes according to Isidore[[1]](#endnote-1) and Ambrose.[[2]](#endnote-2) So, the spouse in Can. 3[:4]: “I held him: and I will not let him go, till I bring him into my mother's house.” But Eccli. 21[:17] it is said, “The heart of a fool is like a broken vessel, and no wisdom at all shall it hold.” But in Prov. 3[:18] it is said, “He that shall retain her is blessed.”

1. Isidore cf. *Glossa ordinaria* Marginal gloss Matt. 17:26: Christus est piscis, mare mundus, hamus mors. Christus gerebat pretium nostrae redemptionis, Quia autem pretium in ore piscis inuentum est, significat redemptionbem nostram ore Christi pre nunciatam esse.

<https://gloss-e.irht.cnrs.fr/php/editions_chapitre.php?livre=../sources/editions/GLOSS-liber55.xml&chapitre=55_17> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Ambrose, *De virginitate* 18.119 (PL :297): captus a Petro [Col.0297C] ministrer altaris, non reti, sed hamo levatur; ut rivo sui sanguinis elevaretur ad coelum. Cujus in ore thesaurus erat, cum Christum in confessione loqueretur. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)