143 Fountain (*Fons*)

The just man can be called a fountain marked by faith, Can. 4[:12]: “A garden enclosed, a fountain sealed up.”

Again, a living fountain through charity, Prov. 13[:14]: “The law of the wise is a fountain of life.” Again, a fountain springing up high through hope, John 4[:14]: “The water that I will give him, shall become in him a fountain … springing up into life everlasting.”

Again, a clear fountain through prudence, Eccli. 1[:5]: “The word of God on high is the fountain of wisdom.”

¶ Again, a fountain watering through justice, Gen. 2[:6]: “A spring rose out of the earth.”

¶ Again, a fountain cooling and cleaning through temperance, Can. 4[:15]: “The fountain of gardens: the well of living waters.”

¶ Again, a fountain never running out through fortitude, Isai. 58[:11]: “There will be a fountain of water whose waters shall not fail.” Again, a fountain born from the earth but of the earth does not follow the conditions because when the earth has utility, darkness, and weightiness, then a fountain has purity of mind, quickness of the good, clarity of work, conversation of the good.

¶ Again, in a fountain are found seven properties,[[1]](#endnote-1) namely, community, utility, fecundity, flexibility, impetuosity, and purity.

Again, in a fountain is lasting motion, a refreshing drink, a cleansing washing.

Again, in a fountain is a perpetual emanation, a virtual cleansing, a free corporal communication.

Again, in a fountain is perpetual flowing. Thus, in Christ it is to pluck away the emanation in perpetuity, Gen. 2[:10], going out it irrigated the whole earth, and Isai. 58[:11]: “You shall be like … a fountain of” oil. In Rom. 3[:25]: “It is to be redeemed in Christ,” just as for community profit in a fountain, because no one closes the bosom of his mercy.

¶ Again, the fountain cools the feverish, cleanses the soiled, revives the thirsty. Thus Christ, etc., these properties even can be applied to the blessed virgin, Gen. 24[:13]: “Behold I stand nigh the spring of living water.”

1. Only six of the seven are listed. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)