391 Eleven (*Undecim*)

According to Gregory, book 32 *Moralia*,[[1]](#endnote-1) every sin is of the number eleven, because while one does perverse things, it goes beyond the precepts of the decalogue. And because sins are bewailed solemnly in goats’ hair. Therefore, in the tabernacle the eleven veils are of goats’ hair. Hence it is said in the eleventh Psalm [11:2]: “Save me, O Lord, for there is now no saint.” Therefore, Peter fearing the number of the apostles to remain at eleven sought Matthias as the twelfth by casting lots. Wherefore also in Dan. [7:8]: “Another little horn sprung out of the midst of them.” It was the eleventh in which is designated the wickedness of the antichrist, according to Gregory, as above.[[2]](#endnote-2)

1. Gregory, *Moralia* 32.15.27 (PL 76:652): Omne enim peccatum undenarium est, quia dum perversa agit, praecepta decalogi transit. Et quia in cilicio peccatum plangitur, hinc est quod in tabernaculo vela cilicina undecim fiunt (Exod. XXVI, 7). Hinc per undecimum Psalmum dicitur: Salvum me fac, Domine, quoniam defecit sanctus (Psal. XI, 1). Hinc in undenario numero remanere Apostolos Petrus metuens, Matthiam duodecimum, sorte missa, requisivit (Act. I, 26).

Cf. Isidore, *Liber numerorum* 12.63 (PL 83:191): Nam et Petrus, cadente Juda, ne in undenario numero apostolorum summa permaneret, duodecimum Matthiam sorte electum constituit, metuens ne in numero transgressionis consisteret summa apostolicae veritatis, licet et hic numerus in ratione temporum reperiatur ascriptus.  [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Gregory, *Moralia* 32.15.27 (PL 76:652): Undecimum quippe hujus bestiae cornu esse describitur, quia regni ejus potentia iniquitate roboratur. [Vet. XV.] [↑](#endnote-ref-2)