Worcester F 80 Distinctiones

211 A Guide of Others (*Rector aliorum*)

A guide of others ought to have authority in commanding, Eccli. 17[:14]: “Over every nation God set,” namely, not flesh, not the world, “but rulers,” that is prelates according to that of the Apo. 2[:26]: “I will give him power over the nations,” etc.

¶ Second, conformity in observances, Eccli. 32[:1]: “Have they made you ruler? be not lifted up,

be among them.” Not over them by oppression, not under them as a manager, not above them

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by elevation, not after them by remission, not beyond them by singularity, but among them by unity and this because co-membership, although the head, Apo. 7[:17]: “The lamb, which is in the midst of the throne, shall rule them,” etc.

¶ Third, sagacity in negotiations, Eccli. 49[:17]: “Joseph, who was a man,” who is a rational animal, “born prince of his brethren, the support of his family, the ruler of his brethren.” And this is because the dispenser Psal. [79:2]: “Give ear, O you that rules Israel.”

¶ Fourth, holiness in deeds who is an example, Eccli. 10[:2]: “What manner of man the ruler of a city is, such also are they that dwell therein.” But alas, Dan. 13[:5]: “Iniquity came out, from the ancient judges.”

¶ Fifth, utility in offices because he is the head who ought to have influence on the members, sense, and motion, Eccli. 10[:4]: “He will raise up a just ruler” over them, Psal. [95:10]: “The Lord has reigned” in eternity.

Sixth, goodness in watching because he is a shepherd, Psal. [47:15]: “He shall rule us for evermore.”

¶ Seventh, inflexibility in judgments because he is a judge, Eccli. 33[:19]: “Hear me, you great men,” etc. Rom. 15[:12]: “He that shall rise up to rule” the nations, such a one shall have honor, Eccli. 10[:24]: “In the midst of brethren their chief is honorable.”

¶ And note that rectitude is triple. They should be powerful preachers because rectitude of heart as for intention, of mouth as for edification, of work as for imitation. By the first they perceive God as propitious, Psal. [72:1]: “How good is God to Israel, to them.” By the second they edify their neighbor, Eccli. 28[:29]: “Make a balance for your words, and a just bridle for your mouth.” By the third they leave an example for all to be well united, Prov. 20[:11]: “By his inclinations a child is known.”