Worcester F 80 Distinctiones

224 Sabbath (*Sabbatum*)

To sanctify the sabbath. [Exod. 20:8]: “Remember that you keep holy the sabbath day.” Concerning the transgressors of this commandment it is said specially, “Remember,” as if they might lose the memory. For they do not recall what they see in nature,[[1]](#endnote-1) nor what they hear

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in scripture. In nature it is that they desire everything quietly after labor. For they labor in sowing and planting in spring, summer, and fall, but they rest in winter. In scripture it is treated [Exod. 20:11] that “in six days the Lord made all things and rested on the seventh day.” The saints have labored in this life, but now they rest in heaven. Only the devil never rests nor those who are in hell. They who therefore always labor because of wealth are unlike God, the creatures, and the saints, but are similar to the devil, Psal. [48:9-10]: “He shall labor forever and shall still live.”

¶ Again,[[2]](#endnote-2) they seem to have lost their memory because the intention of God was that for feast days men should be unoccupied for the Lord’s worship, but they go then to business, taverns, spectacles, and markets. They give over sermons and masses concerning which it is said in Ezech. [22:8]: “You have despised my sanctuaries and profaned my sabbaths,” etc.

1. William de Lancea, *Diaetae Salutis* 3.2 (8:278a): Videmus enim in natura quod omnia quietem appetunt post laborem. Herbae namque et plantae, segetes et arbores fructificant, et suo modo laborant, scilicet in vere, autumno, et aestate, et quiescunt in hieme, et quodammodo somniant. Legimus autem in Scriptura, quod Deus fecit coelum, terram, et omnia, quae in eis sunt, in sex diebus; tamen in die septima requievit. Apostoli et martyres, et alii sancti, laboraverunt in hoc mundo, et tamen nunc requiescunt in coelo. Solus vero diabolus nunquam quiescit, nec illi qui sunt in inferno. ... sed sunt similes diabolo et damnatis, quia nunquam requiescunt, sed semper laborant, et baborabunt in inferno. Nam de damnato dicitur: *Laborabit in aeternum, et vivet adhuc in finem*. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. William de Lancea, *Diaetae Salutis* 3.2 (8:278a): Secundo tales videntur memoriam amisisse, quia intentio fuit Dei, ut in die festo vacaremus divino cultui: tales autem faciunt totum contrarium. Nam diebus festivis vadunt ad mercata, et nundinas, et similia, et dimittunt sermones et missas, et fugiunt a Deo et vacant mundo, et quo pejus est, peccato. ... De his conqueritur Dominus, dicens: *Sanctuaria mea sprevistis, et sabbata mea polluistis.* [↑](#endnote-ref-2)