Worcester F 80 Distinctiones

262 Uncreated Truth (*Veritas increata*)

Truth uncreated is God. Truth created is his gift. His first truth in the end of time is incarnate, according to that of the Psal. [84:12]: “Truth is sprung out of the earth,” that is, Christ from Mary. This one is to be called upon in every necessity and summoned “with all humility,” Eph. 4[:2]. Truth is great and stronger than everything, created truth is to be possessed and served in the heart, in the mouth, and in the work. In the heart as if a directing light, Psal. [42:3]: “Send forth your light and your truth,” etc. For just as parchment without letters, wax without an impression indicates nothing certain, it makes no faith. So, neither the intellect without truth, John 8[:32]: “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” from error and ignorance, Zach. 8[:19]: “Only love truth and peace,” namely, the peace of time, the heart, eternity, the truth of life, justice, and doctrine. But alas because it is said in Ose. 4[:1-2]: “There is no truth, and there is no mercy, and there is no knowledge of God in the land.” There the world is false because there is no truth, savage because there is no mercy. “Foolish because there is no knowledge of God in the land.” But what follows that, “lying,” adultery, and theft have overflowed.”

¶ Second, truth ought to be in the mouth for speaking, Zach. 8[:16]: “Speak truth everyone to his neighbor.” For everyone that can err needs a rule, but man easily slips in his tongue. Therefore, he needs reason regulating, especially in a triple act. First, in preaching. For the teacher of error will be he who has not learned to be a disciple

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of the greatest truth where it is treated concerning the commandments, concerning the sacraments, concerning the articles of the faith. But it is not so dangerous to err about gerunds whether they are nouns or verbs. Second, in judging, Isai. 42[:3]: “He shall bring forth judgment unto truth.” Exod. 18[:21]: “Provide” for yourself, “able men, in whom there is truth,” etc. But alas because of Isai. 59[:14] it is said, “Truth has fallen down in the street.” And sometimes the interposition of the earth causes an eclipse of the moon, so earthly gifts impede the truth of judgment, Prov. 28[:21]: “For a morsel of bread he forsakes the truth.”

¶ Third, in praying to God and confessing sins. For when the voices are known of their sufferings, what are in the mind, where the heart is carried to one and the voice to another, it does not seem to be the truth nor the will of the hearing, Psal. [144:18]: “The Lord is nigh unto all of them that call upon him.” John 4[:23]: “The hour comes, and now is, when the true adorers,” etc. In the spirit against the undevout and truth against hypocrites who seem like monkeys to say the Our Father. But they do nothing, like the sick man who does not reveal to the physician the truth of his sickness, he does not seem to cure him with his healing, Prov. 16[:6]: “By mercy,” of the indulgence of God, “and truth,” of this penitent, “iniquity is redeemed.” But alas because in the Psal. [11:2]: “Truths are decayed from among the children of men.”

¶ Third there ought to be truth in work for pursuing. It does not suffice to know the word of the will of the Lord Psal. [118:86]: “All your statutes are truth,” etc. There three things are to be considered, namely, the form of the commandment when matters are commanded not only under the bodily penalty, but also under penalty of the soul, Psal. [118:4]: “You have commanded your commandments to be kept most diligently.”

¶ Second, there is the intention of the one commanding, because on account of love and our profit. For services forced are not gratuitous, Eph. 4[:15]: “But doing the truth,” neither forced nor feigned, “we may grow,” from good into better, etc.

¶ Third, the rewarding of the one obeying. For consideration of the end moves the craftsman, Eccli. 27[:10]: “Birds,” that is, the souls of the just winged with virtues, “resort unto their like,” that is, to the hosts of the angels, “so truth,” that is, wages,

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“will return to them.” Isai. 26[:2]: “Open the gates, and let the just nation, which keeps the truth,

enter in.”

¶ Again, it is read that truth is triple, namely, of life, doctrine, and justice. Of which the first illustrates by the thunder of clarity. Second, it liberates us from the fear of adversity. Third, it speaks by the honor of happiness. First there were the teachers of the previously mentioned law. Second by the truth was the previously mentioned known, Tob [1:2]: “When he was made captive” he did not desert the way of truth. This liberates because John 8[:32]: “And the truth shall make you free.” Third by truth they abounded about which Jethro said to Moses, Exod. 18[21]: “Provide out of all the people able men,” etc. wise, “in whom there is truth,” and justice shall crown these, Psal. [14:1,3]: “Lord, who shall dwell in your tabernacle? and it follows, “He that speaks truth in his heart.”