Worcester F 80 Distinctiones

39 Conversion (*Conuersio*)

Conversion is multiplex. For one is natural, Eccli. 40[:11]: “All things that are of the earth, shall return to the earth again.” Second, artificial, Job. 23[:2]: “Stone melted with heat is turned into brass.” If art can convert ashes into glass, water into gold, how much more God can convert the decayed heart of the wicked into gloriousness. Third, moral of which one is culpable tending to subversion of the good, as the proud and envious who turn fire into smoke, truth into vanity, Eccli. 11[:33]: “He lies in wait and turns good into evil, and on the elect, he will lay a blot.” Where against Matt. 18[:3]: “Unless you are converted and become as little children.” Thus, the wrathful and cupidinous convert a cloud into thunder, a path into the verge, Eccli. 37[:2]: “A companion and a friend shall be turned to an enemy.” Where against [Psal. 6:5]: “Deliver my soul, O save me.” The gluttonous and the lustful convert flesh (*carnem*) into filth (*putredinem*), scent (*odorem*) into stink (*fetorem*), Jer. 8[:6]: “They are all turned to their own course, as a horse rushing to the battle.” Where against Jer. 31[:19]: “After you converted me, I did penance.”

¶ Another is the moral conversion but praiseworthy tending toward the casting out of evil, Eccli. 5[:8]: “Delay not to be converted to the Lord and defer it not from day to day.” Therefore, that you may be converted to the divine, look above you the reward of glory that you have missed, Matt. 18[:3]: “Unless you be converted,” etc. Below you are the torments of hell which you merit, Psal. [7:13]: “]: “Except you will be converted, he will brandish his sword.” Before you, the judgment to which you will participate, Eccli. 17[:21], lest you delay, “Turn to the Lord.” After you, death which you expect, Joel 2[:13]: “Turn to the Lord, for he is gracious.” Around you is time which we consume. Therefore Psal. [72:10]: “My people will return here and full days [shall be found in them].”