

Church History Literacy

Gregory the Great

Lesson 38

Biblical-Literacy.com

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R E
O M
M P
A I
N R
E

R E

O M

M P

A I

N R

E



R E
O M
M P
A I
N R
E



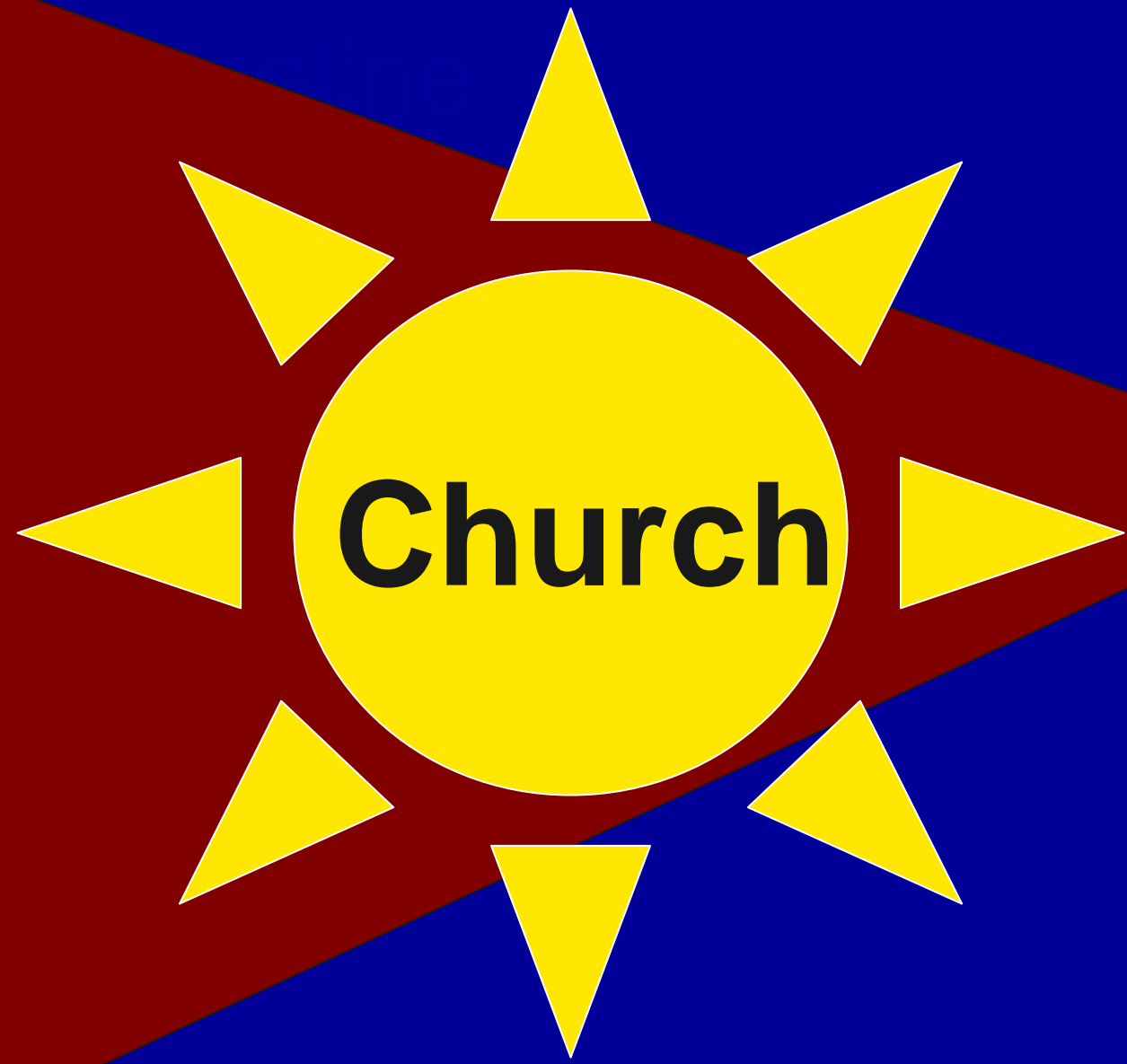
Church

R E
O M
M P
A I
N R
E



Church

R E
O M
M P
A I
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E





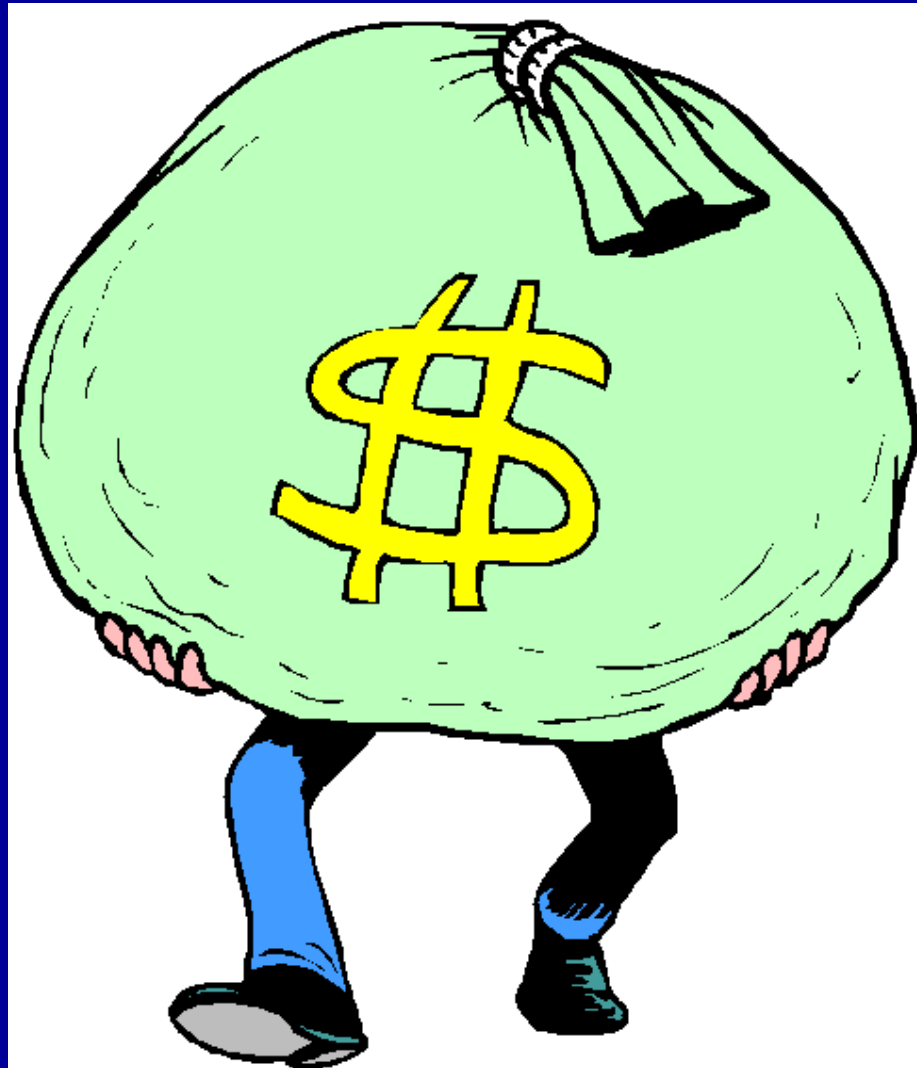
Gregory the Great - Last of the Church Fathers

Gregory's Upbringing

Great Heritage / Family



Great Wealth /Privileges



Great Education



Constant Crisis and Danger





His Parents take
a different turn
and go into
ministry



Gregory makes
the same turn



Gregory makes
the same turn

**Meanwhile, back at Monte
Cassino ...**



Gregory spends 6 years in Constantinople



Gregory spends 6 years in
Constantinople



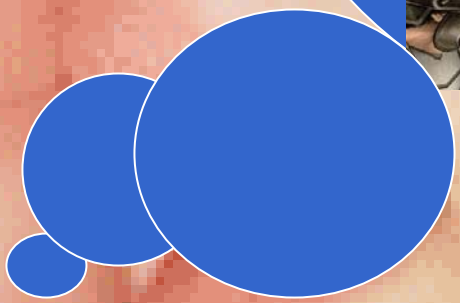


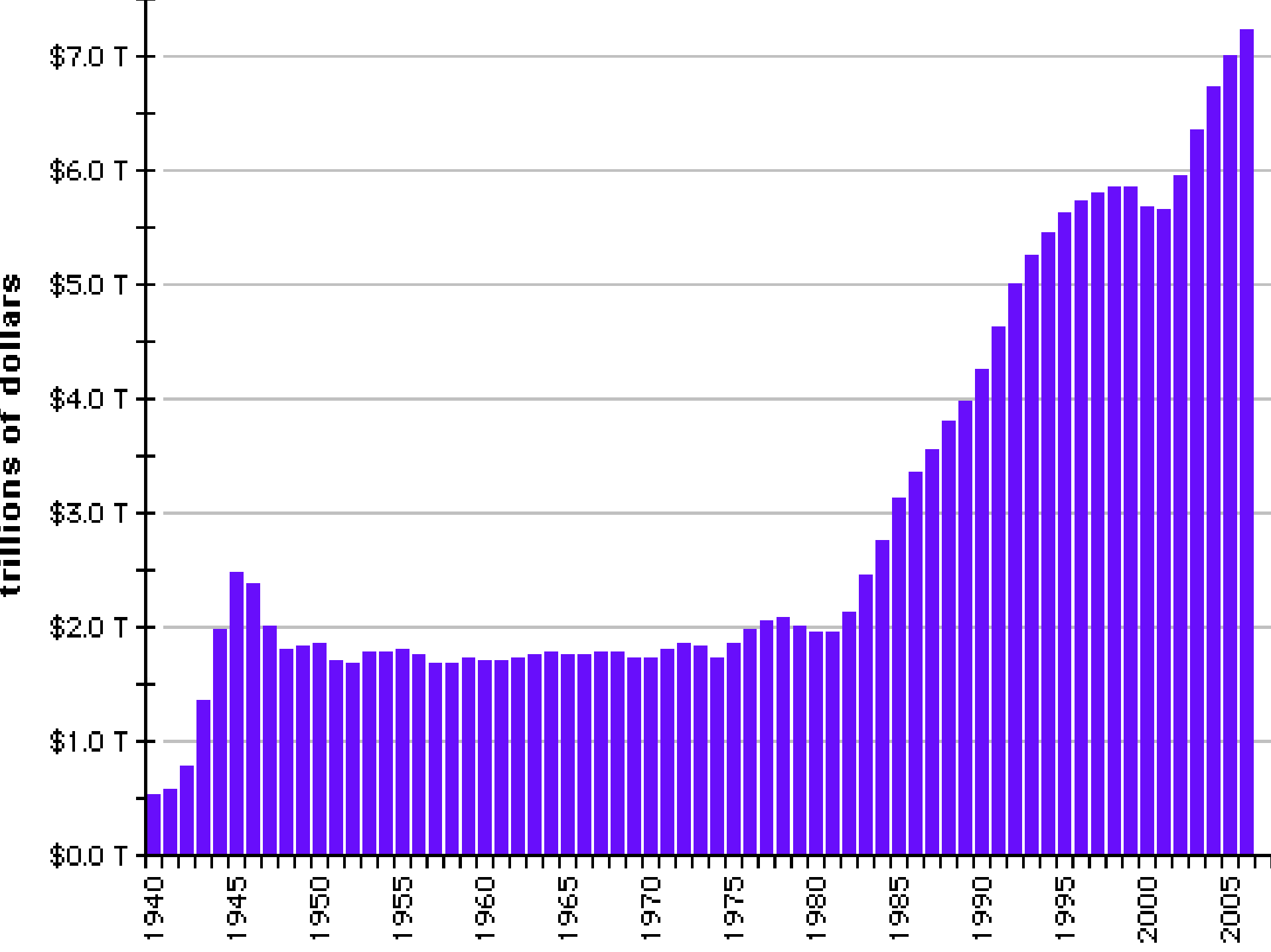
Then back to
the monastery
in Rome











EARTHQUAKES





A black and white illustration of a landscape. In the foreground, there is a dense field of tall grass or reeds. In the middle ground, a fence runs across the frame. In the background, there are trees and a small building or structure. The overall style is that of a woodcut or a high-contrast photograph.

Jesus is coming back soon!



Gregory is made
Pope Sept. 3,
590

Gregory trades leisurely
freedom for business

Gregory trades leisurely freedom for business

Latin: *Otium* =
leisurely freedom

Gregory trades leisurely freedom for business

Latin: *Otium* =
leisurely freedom

Latin: negate or
get the opposite
by adding *neg-*

Gregory trades leisurely freedom for business

Latin: *Otium* =
leisurely freedom

Latin: *negotium* =
business

Latin: negate or
get the opposite
by adding *neg-*

Gregory's as Pope



**Gregory cuts a deal with the
Lombard invaders**



Gregory re-
organizes the
Church's
properties



Gregory works on bringing up
the level of Bishops



Gregory
pushes the
Rule of
Benedict



Gregory
changes the
liturgy
(worship)



Gregory went
after the
plague



Gregory went
after the
plague

A close-up photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark jacket, crying and holding a white tissue to her face. The image is partially obscured by a blue speech bubble and a blue background area on the right.

**“God bless
you!”**

**Gregory went
after the
plague**



Gregory the
Great saw the
forest and the
trees



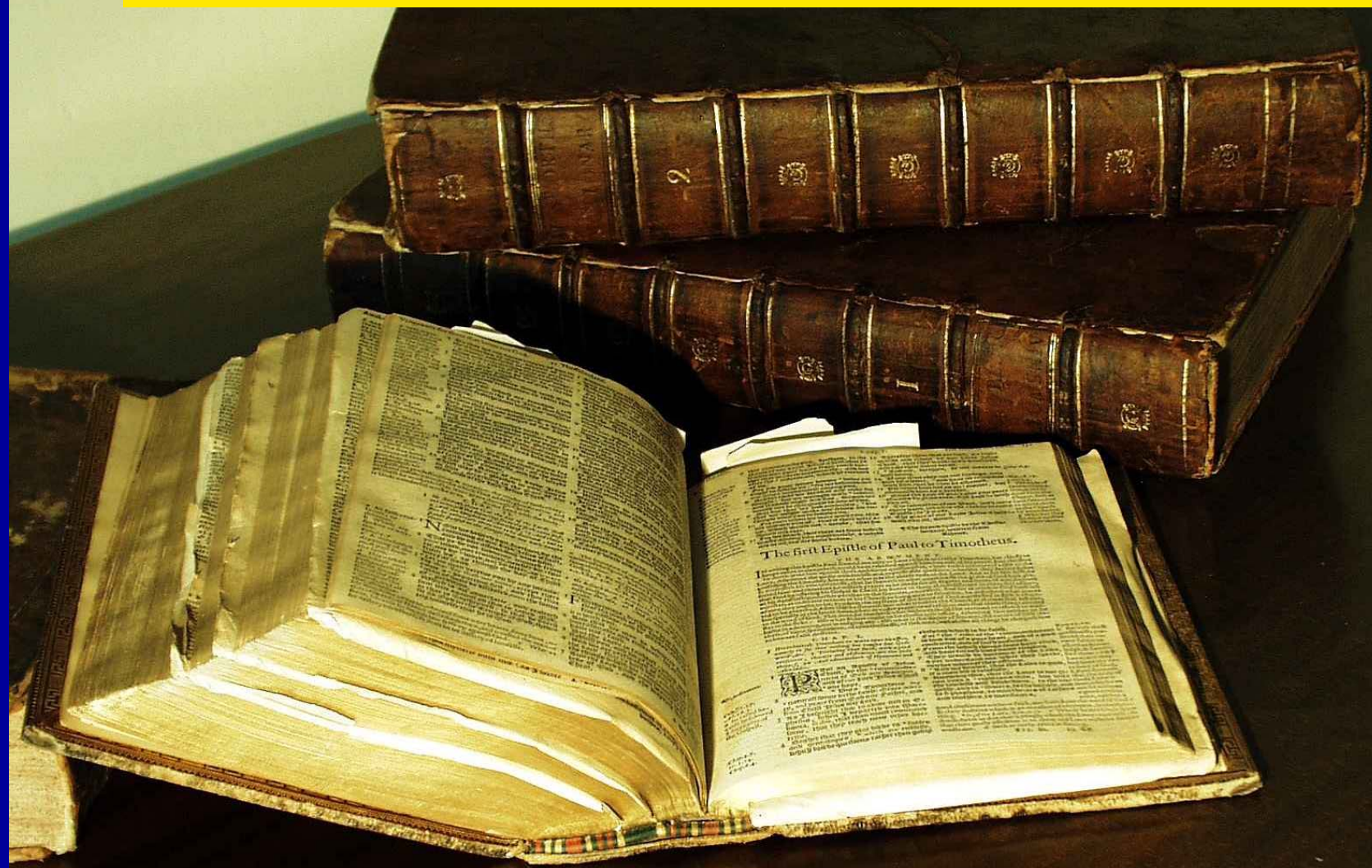
Gregory the
Great lived a
lifetime of poor
health

Gregory's Writings



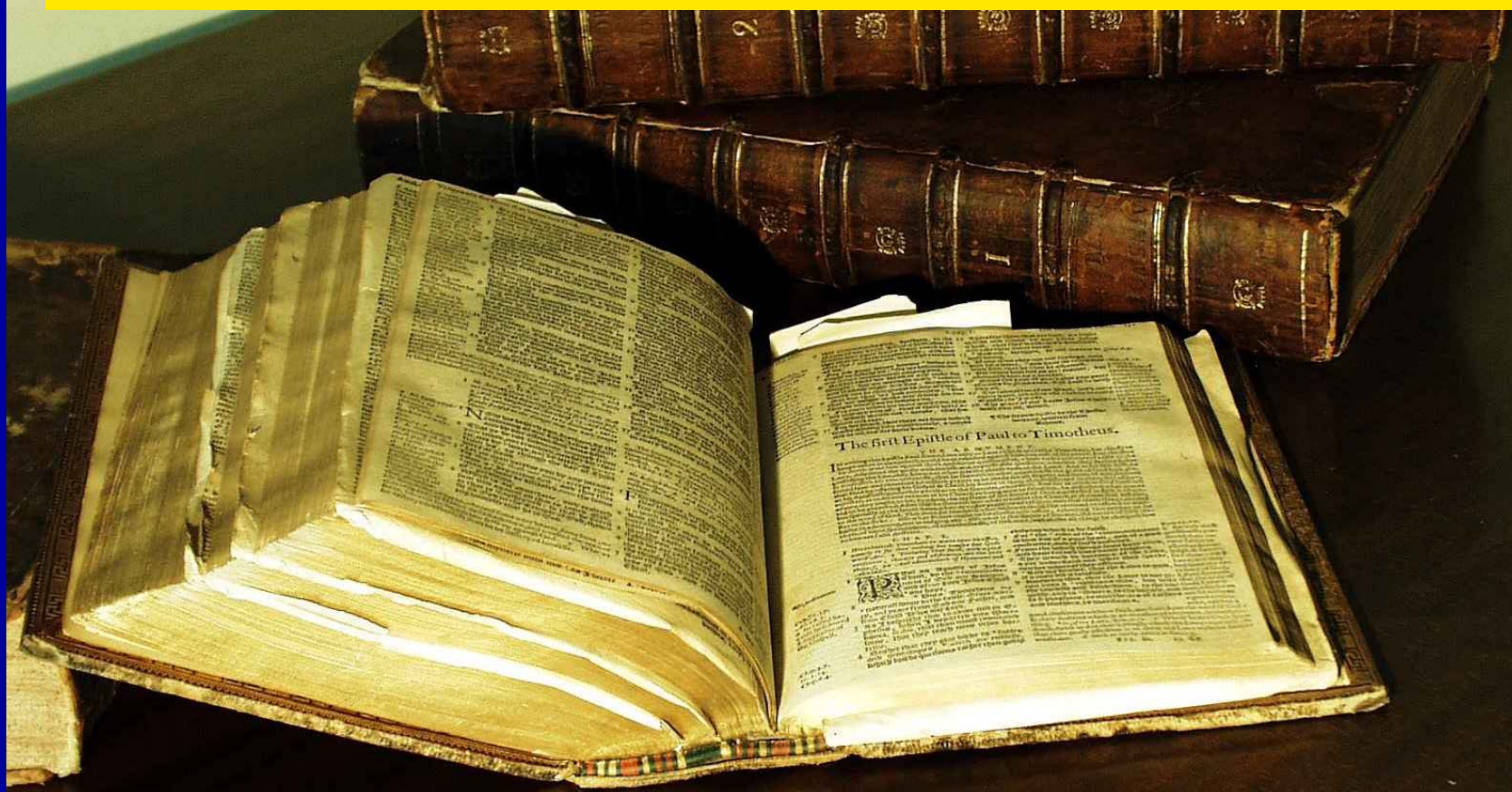
The first Epistle of Paul to Timotheus.

“Divine utterances”



“Divine utterances”

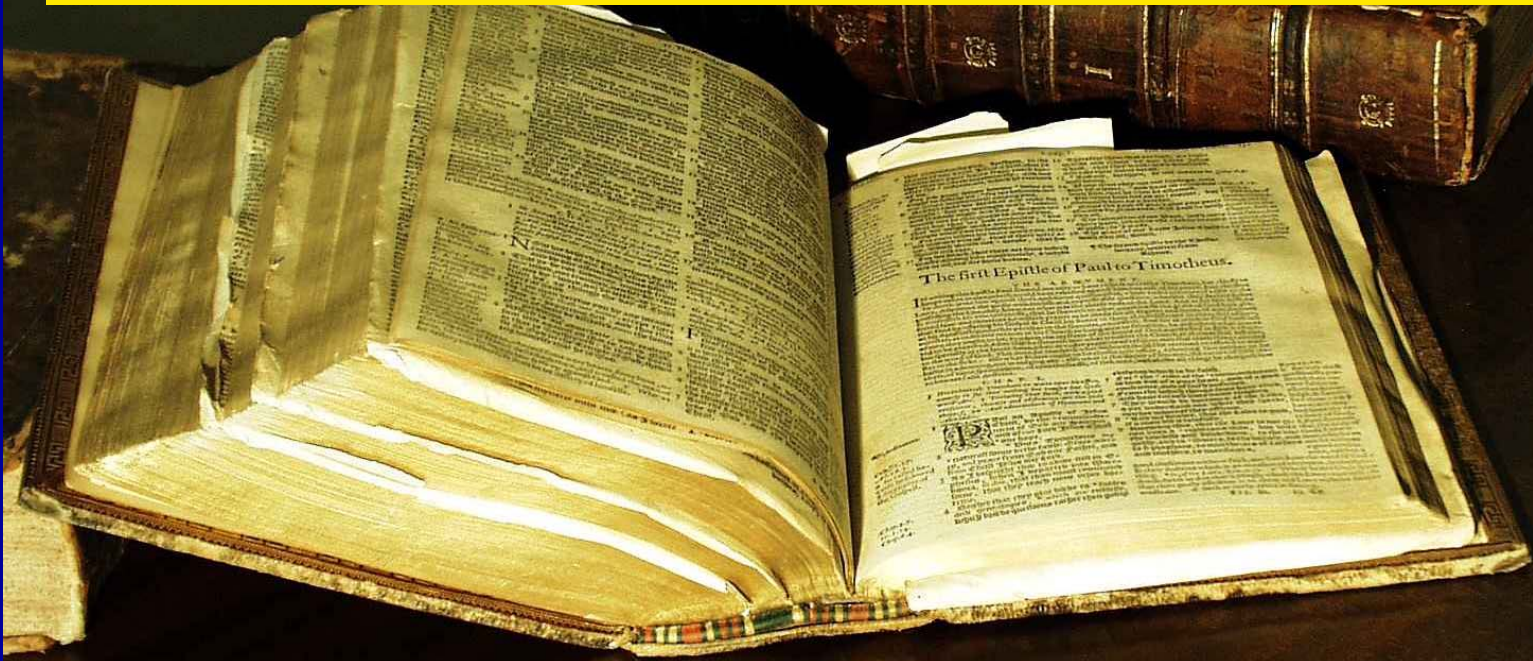
Holy Spirit is author; man is the pen



“Divine utterances”

Holy Spirit is author; man is the pen

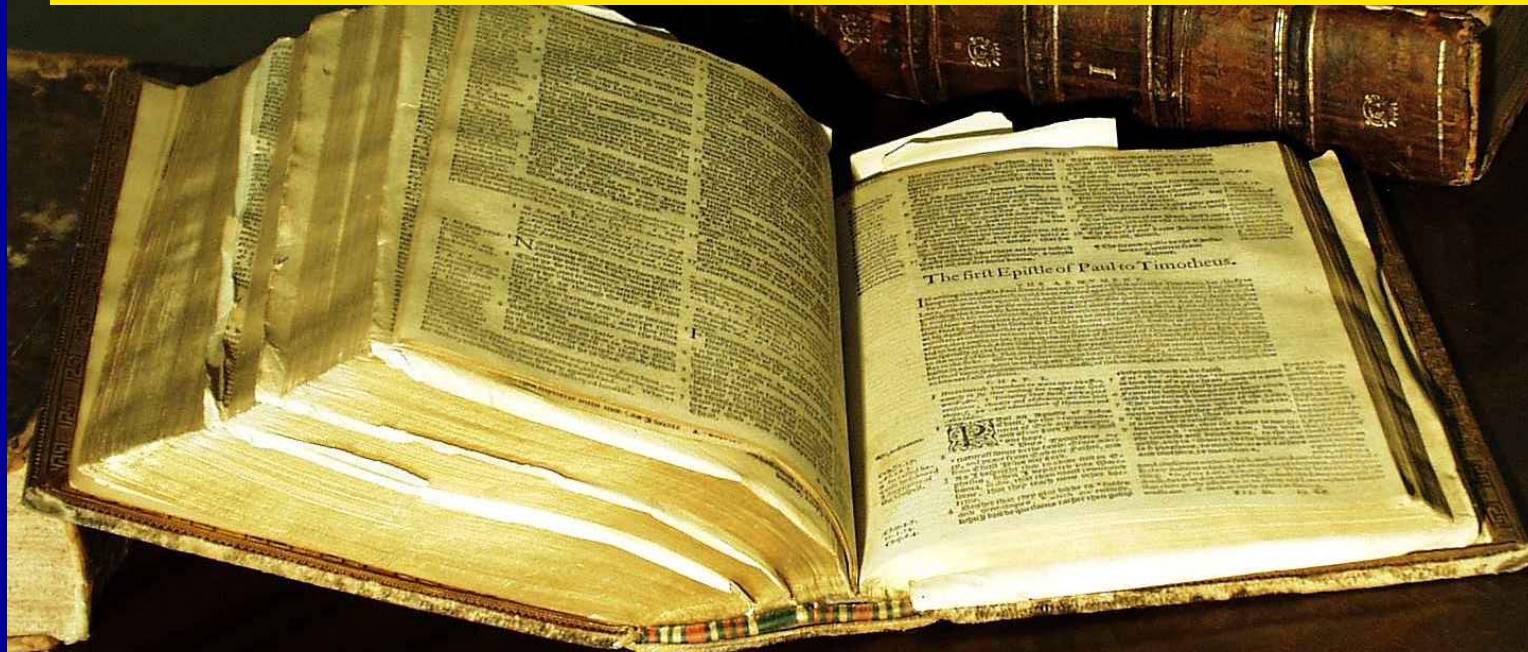
Progressive revelation



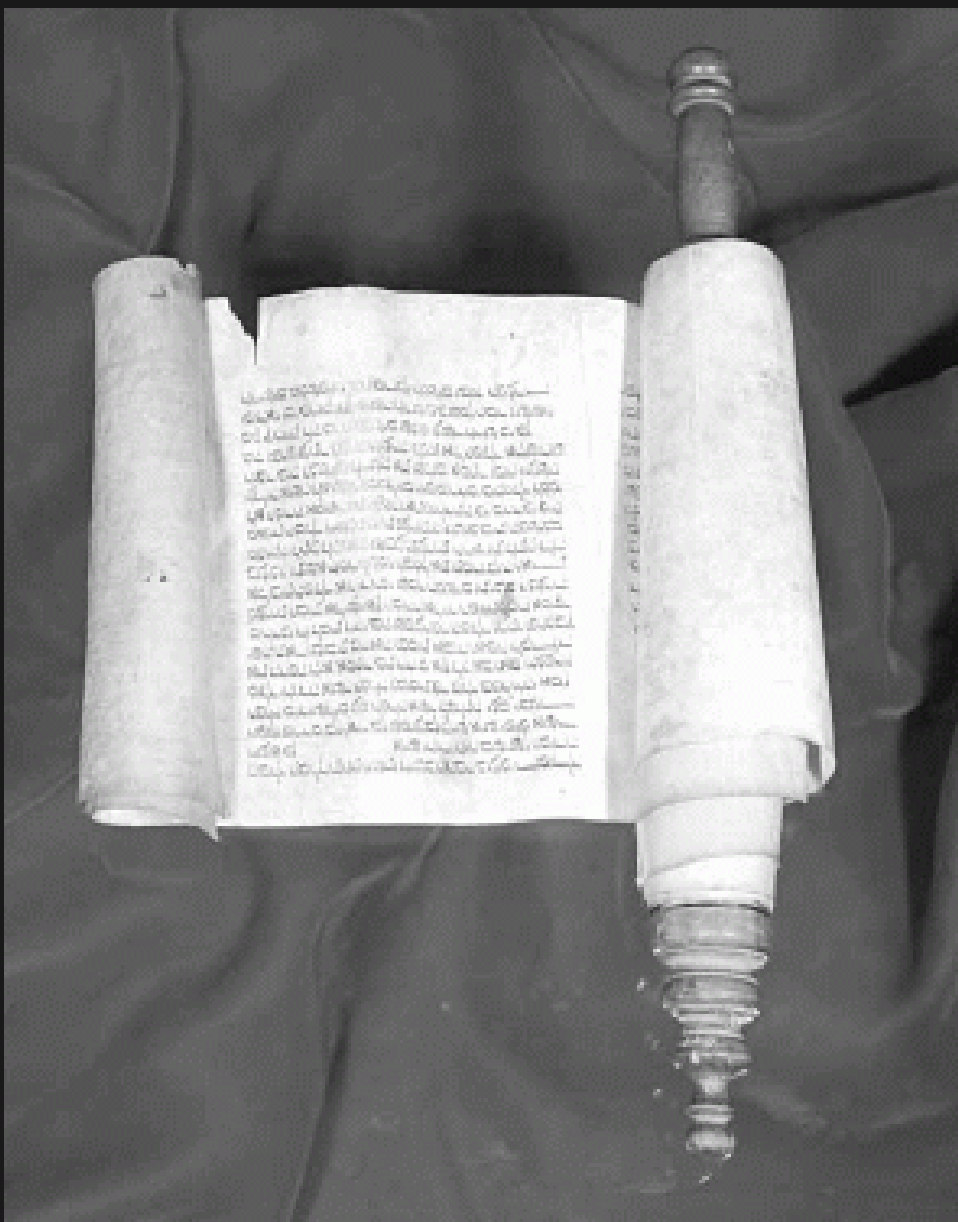
“Divine utterances”

Holy Spirit is author; man is the pen

Progressive revelation



Heavy on allegory

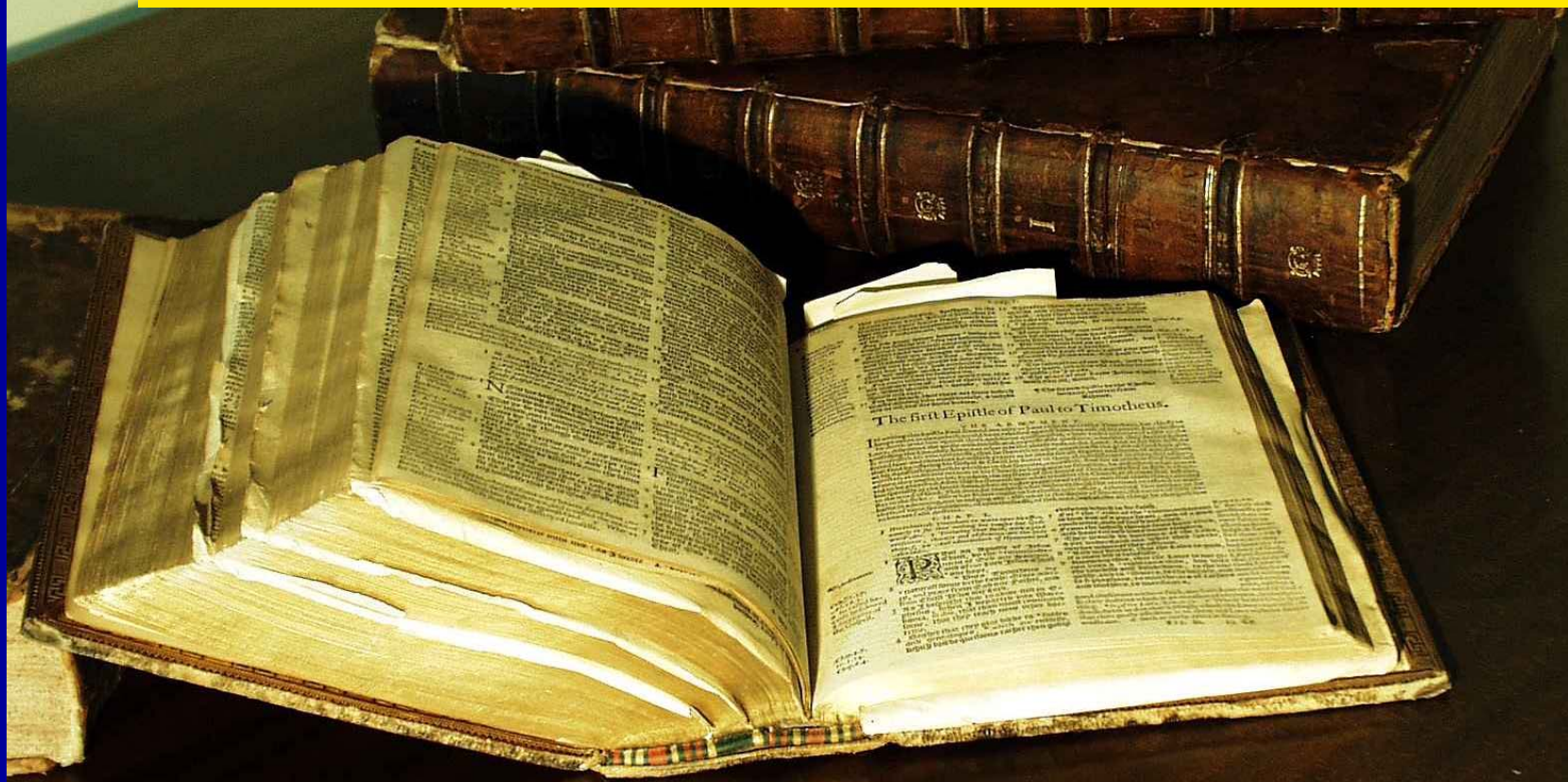


Ezekiel's two-
sided scroll:
the obvious
side and the
hidden side





“God speaks to us with one purpose only, to draw us to love of himself and our neighbor”





Gregory on
the church





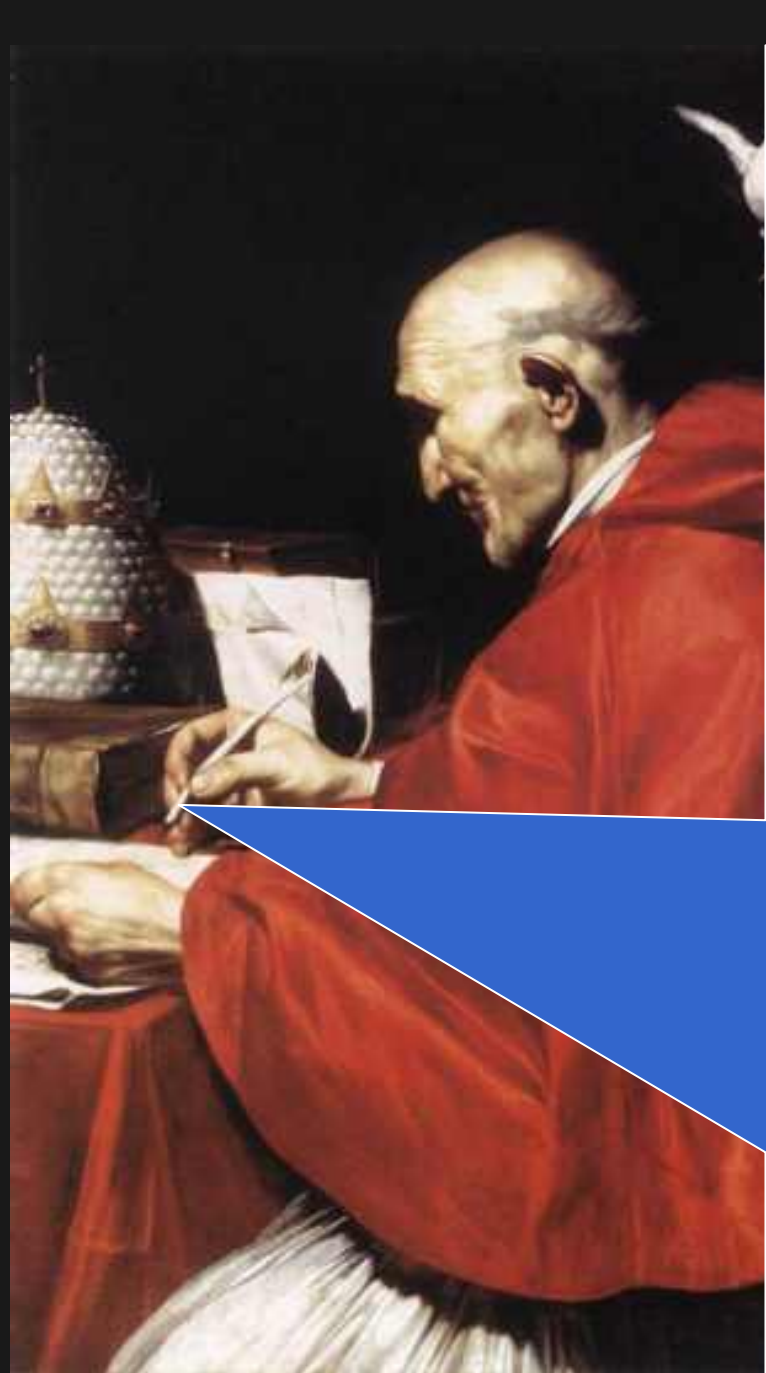
The man called to pastor should live spiritually, dying to all passions of the flesh; disregard worldly prosperity; be afraid of no adversary; desire only inward wealth; not led to covet things of others; through a heart of compassion quickly forgives...



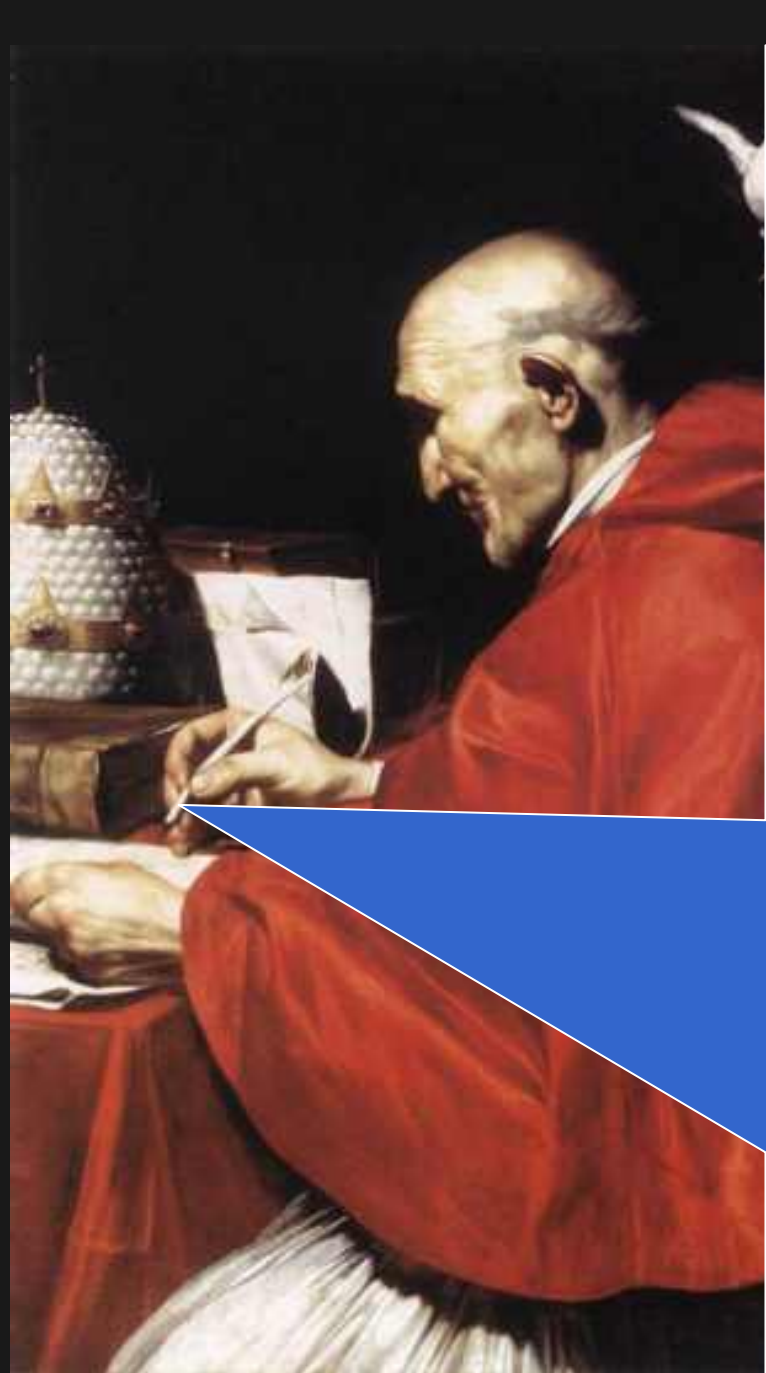
Pastors should understand how easily sin passes itself off as virtue. Often stinginess passes itself off as frugality, and on the other hand wastefulness hides as liberality. Wrath is often considered virtuous zeal; laziness with loving kindness....

Pastors should understand the need to preach differently to different people





Admonish differently the simple and the insincere. The simple need to understand that as they always avoid deceit advantageously they should only speak truth advantageously. As lying always harms the liar, speaking truth can also sometimes cause harm.

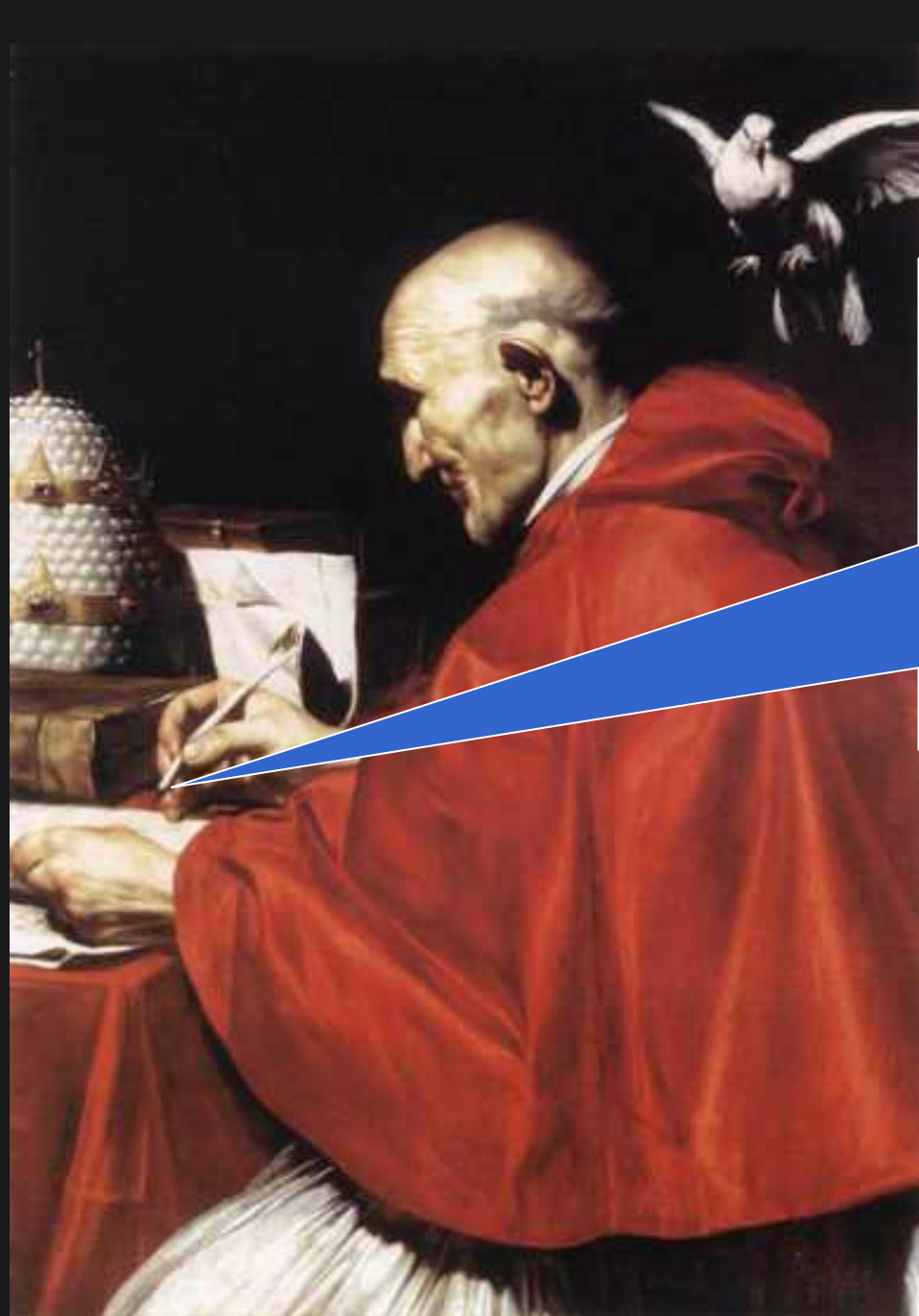


On the other hand, the insincere are admonished to learn the weight of deception. While afraid of being found out, they are often pushed into more lies and they worry over being caught. There is no better defense than sincerity, nothing easier to say than the truth.

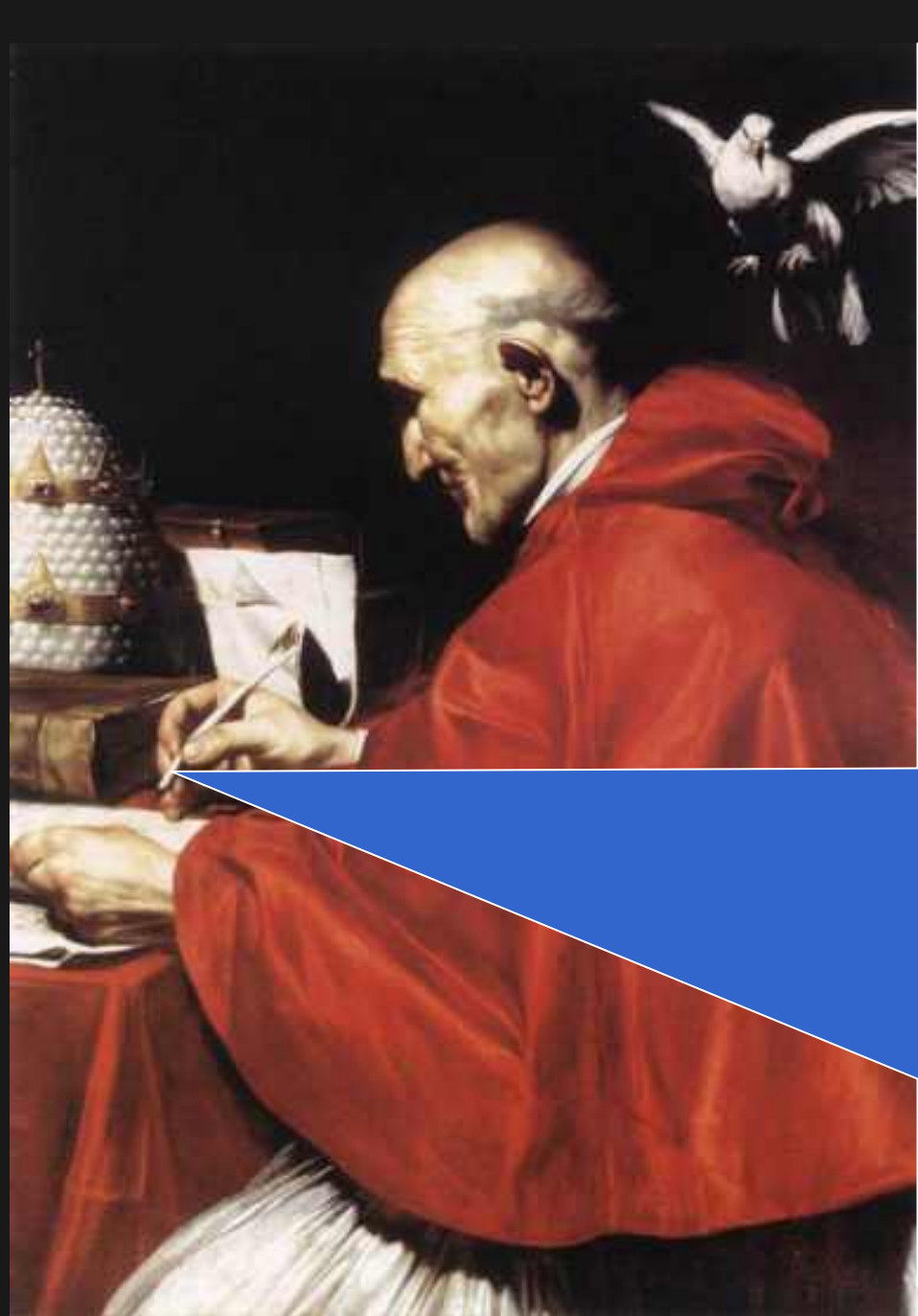


A heart for
evangelism
and a liking of
puns

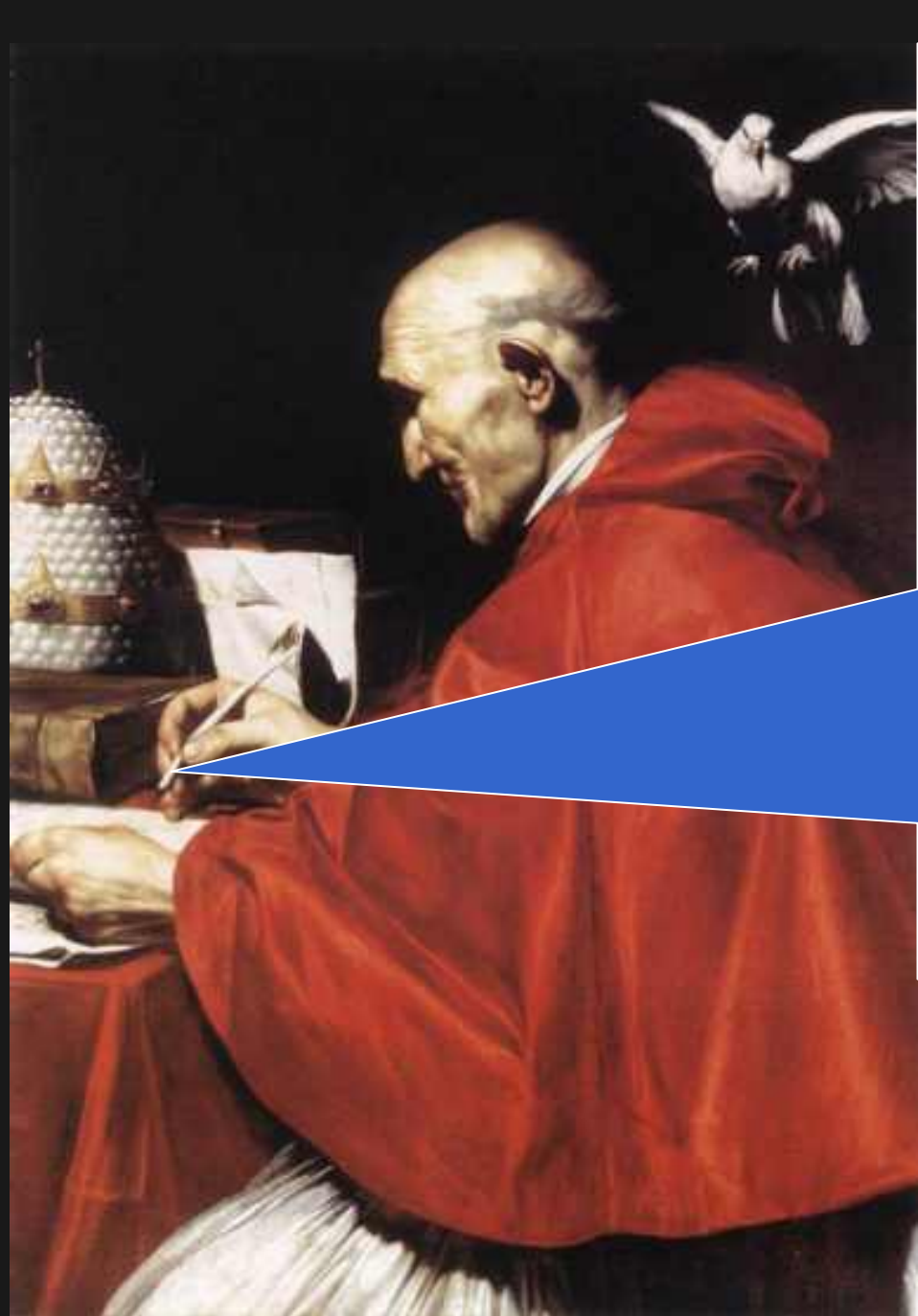




“All the earthly things
we lose by keeping,
can be kept by giving
away.”



“There is a difference between an earthly building and a heavenly building: an earthly building is constructed by gathering together what you have; a heavenly building by scattering what you have.”



Some use the things of this world as a steward for God so they may enjoy God. Others rather use God in such a manner as to try and enjoy the world.

Points for home

- Christianity is based on historical events.. We embrace that faith, not because it is convenient, nor because it is socially acceptable but because it is true.
- “And we are in Him who is true – even in His son Jesus Christ, He is the true God and eternal life.” (1 John 5:20)

Points for home

- Live to please God

“Live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.”
(1 Thes. 4:1)

Points for home

- Don't let poor health stop you from accomplishing things for God

“For my power is made perfect in weakness.”
(2 Cor. 12:7-10)