Note on the Holy Spirit

Anthropology

--Man and grace

Much of Church toba Hedreting prin: John Chrysoston (nowoModen Englices)

Scholastic Age refire

The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit.

The question was that of filioque. Did the Spirit come from the Father or from the Father and the Son? During the scholastic age the Father and Son formula became standard in the west although the east yet objects. We might note that the work of the Spirit has always been a sideline doctrinal question and has probably gotten more space since 1820 than in all the years prior to that.

Anthropology in the Scholastic Period..with more emphasis than for some time due to a rising interest in human life and destiny.

1. The question of man and grace

- a. The pre-scholastic position of man and grace may be defined thus:
- (1) The general views of Augustine were endorsed but they were subject to interpretation. The leading interpreter of Augustine had been the great bishop of Rome, Gregory I (ca 600 AD). He had managed to dismiss Augustine's concept of man's total dependence on sovereign grace and had really taken away force from the position of the great saint Gregory had made grace "purchaseable" through the offices of the church, so to speak, but he had not yet come to the point where it was unnecessary. others of the period, he saw man in a position where grace was necessary to save him and man inhis need was subject to grace in two lines:
- (a) prevenient grace...preparing and going before his salvation to show him his need.
- (b) subsequent grace...following the early work and being a "saving" grace...the actual deliverance of the soul.

In Gregory's thinking "foreknowledge" was not causative. It was neither "decree" nor "prescience" but simple foreknowledge and eventual decree. Man was subject to grace if he wanted it. If he wanted it, God would supply it ... the church was the normal means or channel by which it came. Although many of the ecclesiastics of this period would not have spelled it out this way, that is what it boiled down to become.

(2) This actually gave man considerable more/ ability than Augustine ever thought he had. It also set the stage for the demands the church would put on men in the next few years if they hoped to be saved.