

there is no saluation. We therefore considering, that so pernicious a mischief which may creepe amongst many, wee ought not to suffer, and by dissimulation to passe over, which may with deadly contagion slea the soules of men, least their blood be required at our hands: are willing so much as God wil permit vs to do, to extirpate the same. Wherefore, by the counsaile and consent of many of our brethren and Suffraganes, we haue conuented diuers and sundry Doctours of Diuinitie, as also professours and other Clerkes of the Canon and Ciuill lawes, the best learned wythin the Realme, and of the most soundest opinion and iudgement in the Catholicke faith, to geue their opinions and iudgements concerning the foresayd conclusions: being in the presence of vs, and our fellowe brethren and other conuocates, openly expounded, and diligently examined, and in the end found by common counsaile and consent, as wel of them as of vs, and so declared that some of those conclusions were heretical, and some of them erroneous & repugnant to the determination of the Church, as here vnder are described: Wee will and commaund your brotherhood, and by vertue of holy obedience straightly enioyne, all and singular our brethren and Suffraganes of our body and Church of Canterbury, that with all speedye diligence you possible can, you likewise enioyne them (as we haue enioyned you) and euery of them. And that euery one of them in their Churches & other places of their Citie and Dioces, doe admonish and warne, and that you in your Church and other Churches of your Citie and Dioces, do admonish and warne, as we by the tenor of these presents, do admonish and warne the first time, the second time, and the third time: and yet more straightly doe warne, assigning for the first admonition one day, for the second admonition an other day, & for the third admonition canonically and peremptorie, an other day: That no man from hence forth of what estate or condition soeuer, do hold, preach or defend the foresayd hereses and errors or any of them: nor that hee admitte to preach any one that is prohibited or not sent to preach, nor that hee heare or hearken to the heresies or errors of him or any of them; or that he fauour or leane vnto hym either publicly, or priuely: But that immediatly he shonne hym as he would auoide a Serpent putting forth most pestiferous poison, vnder paine of the greater curse, the which we commaund to be thundered against all and euery one which shalbe disobedient in this behalfe, and not regarding these our monitions, after that those 3. dayes be past which are assigned for the canonical monition, and that their delay, fault or offence, committed require the same: That then according to the tenour of these wrytings, wee commaund both by euery one of our fellowe brethren & our Suffraganes in their Cities and Dioces, and by you in your City and Dioces (so much as belongeth both to you and them) that to the vttermost, both ye and they cause the same excommunications to be pronounced. And furthermore, wee will and commaunde our foresayd fellowe brethren, and all & singular of you a part by your selues, to be admonished, and by the asperion of the blood of Iesus Christ we likewise admonish you: that according to the institution of the sacred Canons, euery one of them in their Cities & Dioces, bee a diligent inquisitor of this heretical prauitie: and that euery one of you also in your Cities and Dioces, be the like inquisitor of the foresayd heretical prauitie: And that of such like preiumpcions they and you carefully and diligently inquire, and that both they and you (according to your dueties and office in this behalfe) wyth effect do procede against the same, to the honour and praise of his name that was crucified, and for the preteruation of the Christian faith and Religion.

Here is not to be passed over, the great miracle of gods diuine admonition or warning: for when as the Archbyschop and suffraganes, with the other Doctours of diuinitie, and lawyers with a great company of babbing friers, & religious persons were gathered together to consult, as touching Iohn Wickliffes bookes, and that whole secte: when as they were gathered together at the Bray fryers in Lodon, to begin their busines, vpon S. Dunstons day after dinner, about 2. of the clocke the very houre & instant y they should go forward with their busines: a wonderfull and terrible earthquake fell, through out all England: wherupon, diuers of the suffraganes being feared, by the strange and wonderfull demonstration, doubting what it shuld meane, thought it good to leaue of from their determinate purpose. But the Archbyschop (as chiefe captaine of that army, more rash and bold then wise interpreting the chaunce which had happened, cleane contrary to an other meaning or purpose, did confirme & strengthen their hearts and minds, which were almost daunted with feare, stoutly to procede and go forward in theyr attempted enterprise. who then discounting Wickliffes articles, not according vnto the sacred Canons of the holy Scripture, but vnto theyr owne priuate affection and traditions, pronounced and gaue sentence, that some of them were simply and plainely heretical, other some halfe erroneous

other irreligious, some seditious, and not conuant to the Church of Rome.

Item, the 12. day of June, in the yeare aforesaid, in the chamber of the friers preachers: the foresayd W. Robert Rigges Chancelor of the vniuersitie of Oxord, & Thomas Brightwell professors of diuinitie, being appointed the same day and place, by the foresayde reuerend father in God Archbyschop of Canterbury: appeared before hym, in the presence of the reuerend father in God, Lord William, by the grace of God Byschop of Winchester, and diuers others doctours and bachelors of Diuinitie and of the Canon and ciuill lawe, whose names are before recited. And first the sayd Chancelor by the said Lord Archb. of Cant. being examined what his opinion was touching the foresayd articles: Publicly affirmed and declared, that certayne of those conclusions were heretical, and certayne erroneous, as the other doctours and clerks afores mentioned had declared: And then immediatly next after hym, the foresayd Thomas Brightwell was examined, which vpon some of the conclusions at first somewhat staggered, but in the end being by the sayd Archbyschop, diligently examined vpon the same, did affirme and repute the same to be heretical and erroneous, as the foresayd Chancelor had done. An other Bachelor of Diuinitie also there was named N. Hammering also at some of those conclusions, but in the end affirmed that bys opinion therein was, as was the iudgement of the foresayd Chancelor and Thomas as is aboue declared. Whereupon, the sayde Lord Archb. of Cant. willing to let and hinder the perill of such heresies & errors: Delivered vnto the foresayd Chancelor there being publicly read his letters patents, to be executed, the tenour whereof in these wordes doth folow.

William by the grace of God Archb. of Cant. primate of all England, and Legate of the Apostolical see: To our wellbeloued sonne in Christ the Chancelor of the vniuersitie of Oxford, within the diocesse of Lincolne, greeting, grace and benediction. The prelates of the Church, about the Lordes flocke committed to their charge, ought so much to be more vigilant as that they see the wolfe clothed in sheepes attire fraudulently go about to worow and scatter the sheepe. Doubtles, the common fame & brute is come vnto our eares. &c. Vt in mandato praecedenti. We will therefore and commaunde, straightly enioyning you, that in the Church of our blessed Lady in Oxorde, vpon those dayes the which accustomably the Sermon is made, as also in the schooles of the sayde vniuersitie vpon those dayes the Lectures be read, ye publish and cause by others to be published to the clergie and people, as well in their vulgare tounge, as in the Latine tounge, manifestly and plainly without any curious implication, the same heretical and erroneous conclusions, so repugnant to the determination of holy Church, as is aforesayd: to haue bene & be condemned, and which conclusions also we declare by these our letters to be vtterly condemned: And that furthermore you forbid, and canonically admonish, and cause to be admonished, as we by the tenour of these presents doe forbid and admonish you, once, twice, and thrise, and that peremptorily: that none hereafter hold, teach, preach, or defende the heresies and errors aboue sayde, or any of them eyther in schoole or out of schoole by any sophistical cauillation or otherwise: or that any admit to preache, heare, or hearken vnto Iohn Wyckliffe, Nicholas Hereford, Philip Reppindon Chanon regular, or Iohn Aylston, or Laurence Readman, which be vehemently and notoriously suspected of heresie, or els any other whatsoeuer, so suspected or defamed: or that either priuely or publicly, they either aide or fauoure them or any of them, but that incontinently they shunne and auoide the same as a Serpent which putteth forth moste pestiferous poison. And furthermore, we suspend the sayd suspected person s from all scholasticall acte, till such time as they shall purge themselves before vs in that behalfe, and that you denounce the same publicly, by vs to haue bene and be suspended, and that ye diligently and faithfully inquire, of all their fauourers and fauourers, and cause to be inquired throughout all the haules of the sayde vniuersitie. And that when you shall haue intelligence of their names & persons, that ye compell all and euery of them to abiure their outrages by Ecclesiasticall Censures and other paines Canonically whatsoeuer vnder paine of the greater curse, the which against all and singular the rebellious in thys behalfe, and disobeying our monitions wee pronounce: so that their fault, deceit, and offence in thys behalfe, deserue the same (the sayde monition of ours being first sent) which in this behalfe we exteeme and allowe Canonically, that then and agayne according to the effect of these our letters. &c. The Absolution of all and singular such, which shall incur the sentence of thys instrument by vs sent forth (whych God forbidde) Wee specially referue vnto our selues: exhortyng you the Chancelour by the asperion of the blood of IESVS CHRIST, that to the vttermost of your power hereafter you doe your indeuoure, that the Clergie and people

Determination vpon the articles of Wickliffe

A letter of the Archb. of Cant. to the Chancelour of Oxford.

Had ye tryed them by the truth, you shuld haue found the otherwile:

Bruta Fulmina.

He that killeth you, shal thinke he doth God good seruice.

Yea rather for the honour of your pope, and destruction of Christian fayth.

An earthquake what time Wickliffe was examined. Ex chron. men. Albanensis.

Make sure worke.