

or Jerome or Tertullian, or Cyprian, or these other great leaders of the early church, but, ~~at~~ not so far below these two men would come Leo I and Gregory I who were men of real ability and real consecration to their task as they understood it.

Well, we discussed Leo I very fully earlier this present semester, so I didn't go into him now, except to mention that fact. Then, before taking up ~~Greg~~ Greg^o I mention Vigilius? #2. He's not particularly important. ~~It would~~ ~~not really~~ ~~be~~ of any great consideration - - " human organization out of the ~~of~~ out of the many dozens of leaders/~~through~~ the centuries they had one who was so lacking in courage as Vgs^o was. He was He saw the truth but he denied it repeatedly from fear, and then once the fear was removed he would come back to it again. We discussed him in connection with the Fifth Ec^o C^o. But I referred to him again here - as I say, it would be of no special importance if there were not those who claimed claim that the Papacy is a divinely established institution for the leadership of the whole of Christ's church. Adn if that were the case we would expect that far more of the men in the first thousand years, ^{the} more than half of Chn^o history more of the men than two would be men of outstanding ability, and we would not expect to find such weakness as Vig^o displayed.

~~Rm~~ But then, No. 3, we began at the end of the hour to speak about Greg^o I. And there is not a great deal new to say about him now because we have touched upon him in various other connections. He was Bishop of Rome from 590 to 604. I'll divide up what we say about him under four heads: a. His background;

a. His background. Gregory I, as we have already noticed, was a man whose father had been the prefect of Rome. He came of a very ~~wealthy~~ well-to-do family. He was well educated, but he very early decided to ~~devote~~ devote ~~him~~ himself entirely to the study of the Scripture and to Chn^o work and he became a Benedictine ~~monk~~ monk. And so as he was a Benedictine monk for a time, he became ^{abbot} ~~abbot~~ of a Benedictine monastery, and then was called to be Bishop of Rome.