

in trying to help them and trying to deal with their problems and he took an interest in the situation of the people of Rome, trying to improve conditions and when he took over it was in a chaotic state, ~~and~~ and they were under the empire and yet the Lombards held most of Italy and conditions were such that many people thought that the world <sup>must be</sup> must inevitably be very near, Gregory himself could not imagine how any time in the history of the world had been as bad as this time, in one of his sermons, he said what it is that can be lightest at this time in the world, everywhere we see tribulation and everywhere we see lamentation, the cities are destroyed, the castles are torn down, the fields laid waste and the lands made desolate ~~desolate~~ ~~villages~~ villages are empty and few inhabitants left in the city and even these remnants of humanity are cut down, the scourge of celestial justice does not cease because no repentance takes place under the scourge, he felt that the end of the world must be very near as things were in such awful conditions and the predecessor died in the plague and he organized seven processions as soon as he was made bishop to go through the streets of Rome ~~praying~~ praying to God to deliver them from the plague and even as they were marching 80 people fell dead of the plague and it was a terrific plague, he came at a time when a person would say, that it is just about as hopeless to anything, the world must be just about to come to its end. But he seized every opportunity of accomplishing something of the miserable situation with which he found himself and he made an indelible impression upon the people of Rome and on the attitude of the Christian church. He took a great interest in the services of the church, he was a great lover of music and he imposed the various things and the beauty of the service, so much that the chant of the middle ages as characteristic of the church came to be known by his name, the Gregorian chant. He was interested in theology and he, on the points of doctrine which the church as a whole came to unity, the great things of the deity of Christ and his relation to the Father and his nature, he took the position which the church had established. In some of the peculiar views of the church of Rome, he went further than his predecessors had, he laid the foundation of the middle ages. He seems to