Ks. Marcin Godawa

THE DIVINE HARMONY OF CREATED WORLD IN KOŁĘDA GOSPODARSKA
(A HOUSEHOLD GIFT) BY JACEK LIBERIUSZ (1599–1673)

Summary

Kołęda Gospodarska (A Household Gift) by a Polish priest Jacek Liberiusz (1599–1673) issued in Cracow in 1669 represents lay old-Polish tradition of giving some gifts on A New Year’s Day but it bears also a religious character referring to the circle of Christmas. The work contains two cycles of sermons directed to various social classes titled respectively: Kołęda na Nowe lato (A Gift on A New Year) and Kołęda na Trzy Króle (A Gift on Three Kings). His work reveals the very optimistic vision of harmonious world which results from the fact of being created by God and it consists of four dimensions i.e. space, time, Holy Scripture and an area of social life. Within the latter component two groups are distinguished: the social states which stay in harmony with God’s plan through the fulfillment of their duties and the states which negative marks are ascribed to. The Liberiusz’ achievement ought to be perceived as a realization of the demands of well-formed and successful Catholic reform (so called Counter-Reformation), built on the Tridentinum teaching, Aristotle’s philosophy and Christian stoicism, which after the deep religion crisis (Reformation) and also the cultural breakthrough (Mannerism) was promoting during the XVII century a coherent vision of the world and the man’s position inside.