

of the Eastern churches or the churches of Rome. another handicap was this. While he was the bishop of the leading city of the East as far as political power was concerned, the city which was near Rome which was the head of the section of the Roman empire. Whether or ~~not~~ this city was a new city it was founded by Constantine after the time of the first ~~ecumenical~~ ecumenical council. It could not boast of any apostle had founded it or had established its line of bishops, there had been not city in the time of the apostles. And so Rome could say that Peter founded our church and Antioch could say Peter was bishop of Antioch, Alexandria could say St. Mark, the writer of the Gospel, the close companion ~~the~~ of the apostle of Peter and sometimes of the apostle Paul founded our church in Alexandria. ~~Sometimes~~ Constantinople could lay no such claim and that gave its leaders a tremendous handicap, as far as leadership in the church was concerned. Now there were two other great cities you might feel there were three but Jerusalem was not a great city. Jerusalem was a city which had a great name, a great position but it was comparitably small city and the bishop while he was not a man given a great deal of honor he was not a man of great importance in the church. But the two great cities in the East besides Constantinople were Antioch and Alexandria. Antioch considered the greatest city in Syria before it had been the second largest city in the empire. It was the place where the disciples were first called Christians, it was a city of great christian position with a great history of great importance. The bishop of Antioch liked to think of himself as a man of great importance in the church, he had great there where he developed various particular view points ~~there~~ of the they claimed great men of leadership. The same was true of Alexandria, Alexandria in Egypt was a great city of the richest part of the whole empire. It was a section where Christianity had been established quite early it was a section where it had been great Christian writers and great Christian leaders. Athanasius, who had been bishop of Alexandria for so many years, in the ^{fourth} ~~first~~ century had been the great