

Nestorius was a very elegant man, but not a particular a good thinker. He seems to have been an honest man and very zealous for orthodoxy but rather impetuous man sounding practical judgment. He addressed Theodosius II with these words, Give me oh emperor the proufy the heretics and I will give thee heaven for it. Help me to fight the heretics and I will help thee to fight the Persians. And now it shows somewhat of his attitude and he was determined to put down whatever was wrong and the peculiar thing was he was the one who was put down in the end. He started out to put down whatever was wrong and he was good preacher and he held a high standard of ethics and the to Christ in his sermons. He did have some sympathy with the Pelagians, and he did not quite see the bearing of the controversy and he saw the high moral character of Pelagius and Celestus and he showed a friendly attitude toward them which led them to think he somewhat Pelagian in view though actually he did not fully understand the doctrine. But he was very strict in the city trying to deal with holding meetings who were not members of the orthodox church and trying to get the emperor to interfere with services of people who were not members of that church and he was enforcing the laws some which had been rather in obedience in this point before. His difficulty began when felt that other were falling into order and he began to criticize them, and the thing that he criticized them for was in the direction of a very real error, it is one of the great errors the church of Rome today and the Eastern church maybe just as far in it as the church of Rome. And this was putting Mary into the position where she was queen of the angels head of the saints, where she became almost like the gods, and this movement during the previous century had come more and more to the front, it had not been very marked the century before but it was coming more and more to the front now, and people began to call them by the name Theotocus, a compound greek word which means the one who bore God. The mother of God, the people were calling her the mother of God and Nestorius criticized a monk in Constantinople who called her the mother of God.