

as developed in latter times, because there was no definite system to it there were men just come together, and agreed to live in a certain way and agree to separate any time they wanted to, he spoke of the many monasteries which he founded in Africa the great stress which he gave to this sort of life, he said I have not found men anywhere than in monasteries, and he himself saw the great dangers which were in the system, even compared to the undeveloped form which it had in his day, it is interesting to read writings of Roman Catholic priests and monks converted to protestant to read their writings to see what they say about these people, about the effect of the life in the monastery. Now through the middle ages it is hard to conceive of the middle ages without the monasteries, because the way the history went you had a world in which you had practically ceaseless clashing armies of Europe constantly murder and robbery and upheaval and turmoil and scatter through the land you had these monasteries in which the people came apart from the world and were a part from the cruelty and blood thirsty of the world and were resolved then copying manuscript doing manual labor studying 8 to 9 hours in religious services every day going through the requirements of the monastery they kept learning a life through the middle ages they had a great influence upon the world, it was eventually out of one of these monasteries Martin Luther came, with his message of salvation. They had a tremendous influence in the middle ages, the middle ages if there were exactly as they were but without the monasteries, would have been a period in which civilization would have degenerated and it is doubtful if you would have any European civilization today. The monasteries exerted a very great part in keeping civilization alive in the middle ages but that is not to say that if these men in the monasteries in the early part of the middle ages had been instead of that sowing Christ in a different way the middle ages as a whole might have been all together different, and ~~without the good modern era might have possibly~~