

The bishop of Constantinople, when he came in, was a ~~strong~~ strong and honest Arian, and he ordered him to leave Constantinople and he put Gregory of Nazianzen in his place. This, of course, was only an interim measure, the church would not recognize Gregory as bishop until the church had elected ~~him~~ him. But he exercised the power of bishop on Const. until a council should be held. And Theod. called this second ecumenical council which had 150 bishops in it, ~~among~~ among whom there was no one from the western church. This council was not called by a pope, there was not a pope present at it, or presiding over it, or exercising any influence over what it did. It was a smaller council than some of those which Constantius had had. It had less than half the number of bishops than the Council of Nicea, and it only had bishops from the east. And so it is strange in a way that this council is recognized by all Christian groups as the second ecumenical council. And ~~the~~ the first seven ecumenical councils, though the last three become less important, are recognized by all the branches of professing Christians, as authoritative in their statements of Christian doctrine. x

Now the reason, then, why this one is accepted, is not on account of the high calling of the men who were in it, or the way it was called, or anything like that, but because of the fact that its conclusions ~~came~~ came to be accepted. And they were accepted by the west and accepted throughout the east. And this Council of Constantinople reaffirmed the Nicene Creed with a few important minor changes, and there was, in the course of the discussion of the ~~controversy~~ controversy, there had come up a new emphasis among some on ~~the~~ denial of the ~~deity~~ deity of the Holy Spirit. The Arians had, in the original controversy, ~~the~~ the Holy Spirit had been not particularly involved. The question was, was Jesus God, or was He a creature made by God. The orthodox people believed that He and the Holy Spirit were equally God, as God the Father, the Arians believed that God the Father created God the Son, and God the Son created the Holy Spirit. But the whole discussion was on Christ. Now, toward the end of the discussion on this, the ~~matter~~ matter