Pre Reformation Church History 11/27/62 No. 14 continued 3 The Bible is God's endeavor to lead people to take an interest and to gradually develop their minds and their understanding so that they would have a comprehension of these vital matters, and that is true of the N.T. as well as the O.T. There is pregression and revelation in the Bible. That doesn't mean he gives us something false and then removes it. No, what it means is that he gives hints and then clarifies and enlarges and expands and gives us more evidence and understanding and other teachers. The treinity is implicit in the O.T. but never explicitly stated in the O.T. Well, I'm not sure it is explicitly stated in the N.T. unless you take that one verse in Lst John of which **is no evidence in any manuscript until the 9th or 10th Century A.D. That verse may have been in the originals but most scholars believe it wasn't and we have no evidence that it existed before that time. But the teaching of the trinity is absolutely clear in the N.T. and it is clearly suggested in various passages in the O.T. and that is true of the great theological truths of the teachings of the Bible. Now some people will tell you that the Council of Nicea - that the trinity comes from the Council of Nicea - that's when the Christian church began to believe in the trinity. No. they didn't even use the word trinity at the Council of Nicea But the fact that the trinity was known to most Christians right from the time of the Lord Jesus Christ ... these doctrines are not new things that the church has worked out. They are an attempt to express those facts which the Bible definitely gives but perhaps does not express in brief concise language. There is an attempt to express them in this brief way. But the true Christians from the very beginning certainly believed in the Trinity, they certainly believed in all of the great theological doctrines and they certainly telieved that Jesus Christ was a person, that Jesus Christ prayed to his father, that he said "the Father is greater than I". that he said "the Son doeth nothing of himself but whatsoever is of the father, that he doeth", they also believed and preached that he and the father are one, that there is one God, there are not two Gods or three Gods but only one God and Jesus Christ is God from the foundations of the world, that as long as there was God there was Jesus Christ. That, true Christians have always believed, but you can't When you try to explain them fully in human words fully explain them in human words