

preaching that it is on Wednesday, how can you and I cooperate. We can be friends but we can't work together if you are always going to exaggerate a minor thing. But if you believe it is on Wednesday and don't think it is any more important than I think it is that it is on Friday, then of course we can differ on this matter and still work together on the things that are really vital. So, it is a vital thing to determine what the real issues are. Now of course the Christian church for two centuries had been in difficulty over this problem and the average person would not be competent to make a clear type explanation of what he believed but the average simple christian and most of the christian leaders certainly believed in studying the Bible that Jesus is God. They believed that there was one God. They believed those two things even though they couldn't explain it. But various leaders tried to explain this and as they tried they wavered in one direction or the other. Was Jesus just a manifestation of God - Sabellianism. God revealed himself in his character as father, as saviour as holy spirit. These are just ways and God must reveal himself in a hundred other manifestations. There are merely roles of the one God. This was a very bad thing. Some of the people who fell into Arianism were moved by their great ^{of} fear ~~that~~ Sabellianism which is absolutely unchristian because it destroys the personality of Christ, and destroys all potentiality of Christ being our Saviour. Then on the other hand, there are those who say Jesus is a man, and God enters into him in some way. He is a man - separate - not God at all. Well of course this was wrong and as they approached from these two sides - now had come the time to say things were pretty thoroughly detested by the church as a whole. But when Arius thought he could find an explanation of the problem to satisfy the people and also make it easier for the heathen to come into the church. For the heathen to accept this doctrine of the trinity was very difficult. They could not understand it. Their philosophers had taught them about the great unmovable, absolute God who is so remote from humanity that he could not have any direct contact. That was an old pagan belief. Not held by the masses but by the philosophers from the earliest times. So it was