

one of the most vile; but certainly one of the most influential. He was a bishop of Constantinople. Ulfilas was ordained to be Bishop of the Goths, missionary Bishop of the Goths. That is he was ordained to go to the north to try to convert these Gothic people. The Lord had planted in his heart a desire to reach these people with the gospel. So this young man at the age of 30 was ordained by the Arian group for that purpose. There in the empire he had received his Christian training, he was a Christian before he came but he received instruction; he learned that Christ was the one that died for our sins and only through him could we be saved, and through Christ the world was created. He learned these things about Christ but he also learned that Christ was not fully God; that he was one whom God had created. So Ulfilas was an Arian but he was an Arian who had these views because he was taught them but whose emphasis was on the great central features of the gospel. I find as we have contact with people that it is very interesting how we sometimes find someone who is 99% orthodox in his views but who is determined to convince everyone of the 1% on which he differs; and that you might say is the vital thing with him. Then I have found others who may have 30% of misunderstanding from true Christian views but this 30% is simply something they have been taught and their emphasis is on the vital doctrines that they believe and only God can judge the heart. I was much interested one time in trying to get a sermon ready on a boat riding on the ocean. I always like to preach on a boat if I can because many people will come to a service then that never come otherwise and you have a wonderful chance to give the gospel to people who don't ordinarily hear it. You never know who you are speaking to. One time I gave a sermon on which I used illustration from Astronomy and a man came up afterwards and said "You could have made those illustrations even stronger" than you did. He then explained that all of those in the service were from the Washington Naval Observatory. Well, I was glad I had been under the facts rather than over them. It illustrated my point fully but I could have made it twice as strong and still it would have been right