

--- Julius Caesar had to march to meet them with a great army and had utterly destroyed thousands of people in these two groups that were trying to conquer. There had been attempts of large groups to break their way into the empire and see the fine things of the empire and these attacks were beaten back one after the other but many many individuals came in as individuals into the group and were assimilated into the empire. So during the full time of our church history thus far, there has been from time to time, wars with the Germanic peoples resulting in many losses on both sides. The emperor who had the great persecution in 250 AD, he himself had died fighting with the Germanic tribes. Now in the time of Valens - 378, a crisis came because the Germanic tribes in what is now Rumania, North of the Danube, were attacked from behind by a wild people who we speak of as the Hunz who had come from these Asia. These people were pushing against the Goths and ~~the~~ Goths as a result, were trying to get away from them and they began to push against the country to the south of them. They negotiated with the emperor to allow them to come across and settle in some land within the empire which was very ~~hardly~~ ^{sparcely} settled. It was good land and the agreement was made and they were allowed to come across but there was some poor administration. Soon they found themselves in difficulty with the Roman officers who were directing their settlements. These men were taking a lot of graft for themselves and were not turning over to them what they should and things were being mishandled so they finally came to blows. And Roman officers on the ground were destroyed and the Roman ~~forces~~ ^{forces} there were annihilated. This group of Germanic Goths already south of the Danube, were definitely at war with the Roman Empire. So Valens sent word to Gratius, the son of Valentinian I, a comparatively young man, who had now for only two or three years been emperor. He was not yet 20 years of age. Valens sent word to Gratian asking him to come and help him put an end to this ~~explosion~~, already south of the Danube where it was difficult to hold it back, to put an end to it and to put down this attack. Gratian sent ~~a~~ word that he would come immediately and started with an army but Valens got there first.