

- preaching of the Nicene Creed, going right into Constantinople which was where the emperor had his control and where the people were overwhelmingly Arians. The Emperor had made all of the Bishops Arians. After 378 when Valens died, there was not the same imperial pressure but the people as a whole were devoted to Arianism. Gregory went in there and got hold of a little place and began to preach and he preached on the incarnation and carried on and gradually won support in Constantinople until the time came when he had sufficient followers to build a very fine church - The Church of the <sup>Resurrection</sup> ~~Incarnation~~ there in Constantinople, where he preached a great series on the incarnation and won the leaders of thought in Constantinople to the Nicene Creed.

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There is one point about Gregory of Nyssa which I did not mention yesterday because it is a small point but it became important as things developed. Gregory was a very good friend of Basil as I mentioned, but Basil was greatly interested in administrative matters, and excellent in them and exerted a great influence toward the overcoming of Arianism. Gregory was a great preacher and a great thinker. Not as great a thinker as Gregory of Nyssa but his particular area was not with administration. Basil at one time found a difficulty with a neighbor (he was over the whole area of Cappadocia) and found difficulty with another bishop who was an Arian and found a way to offset this by getting Gregory in as Bishop in a town called Sisima, not a place of great importance but the factors were important that Basil persuaded Gregory to accept the appointment to this caravan town of Sisima. So Gregory went to take a look at the town and found it just a little caravan town, just a dot on the road, where caravans stopped for lunch. There were two caravan lines - a dirty stinking, miserable place and there seemed to be no opportunity there to utilize Gregory's talents and ability at all, and he simply didn't stay there. He left there and went back to continue the work he had been doing and then went into Constantinople to try to witness for the truth in Constantinople, that is, a few years later. But he had been made Bishop of Sisima and that fact was to come back to plague him later on.