

over the churches of Italy, but you will find that the churches in Milan it is different, because the order of the liturgy which Ambrose established in Milan was considered so excellent and so highly thought of, that no one would dare to make a change in it through the ages. So the Ambrosian Liturgy lives on in Milan. He was a man who was not a great orator, not a great thinker, not a great exegete, but a good speaker, a good thinker, a good exegete. Ambrose was a man devoted to the service of the Lord as he understood it and a man who exerted an influence so great that we wish we could spend hours considering his life. We cannot do it because there aren't so many particular things of outstanding importance about the situation in which he found himself. You take St. Jerome who was about the same time, St. Augustine who was led to the Lord by Ambrose and you take these two men and I am afraid we will have to give maybe a week to St. Jerome and maybe three to St. Augustine. St. Ambrose there is not so much that is important for us to discuss. He was not in the sort of situations the others were in. It is very important that we are aware of some of the facts about his life. question - Ambrose came of a Christian family and had had Christian teaching as a boy and had a love for the Lord but had not felt called to full time Christian service. But he felt called to administration in political life and trained himself for that. He was a member of the city council in Rome and then the official in Rome who had jurisdiction over the whole of Italy appointed him governor of this area. Those are the important facts with a little incidental information which became very interesting later - that when Ambrose left Rome to go to Milan to become governor over the area, the official there who sent him, in describing the nature of his duties and telling him why he had picked the man of Ambrose' type for it, said "I am sending you not so much as a governor as - as a bishop" meaning in your work as governor, you are not to go in with the attitude of you do this and that but a work of personal influence in establishing the government in the way it ought to be for the good of the people as a whole. Now that is what Ambrose wanted as he was that type of man anyway.