

We will say a few more things about Ambrose later. There are a few dramatic incidents in connection with his life which are of considerable interest and I have already mentioned to you, the fact that it was through Him that St. Augustine was led to the Lord. Anyone who knows anything about Christian history or christian doctrine has frequent contact with the important things of St. Augustine and Ambrose had this important part in Augustine's life. Augustine is so very important that we will study in full about him later on. I merely mention that fact now.

At this point we are discussing the downfall of Arianism and the point for that is 381 so that he was only 7 years a bishop before that but in Milan, the one center of Arianism in the West, because the will of the emperess if as there was giving her support as strongly as she could and ~~had~~ under Constantius he had forced it to be dominant in ~~the~~ Milan - so there you have a man who exerted a tremendous influence against it, not by any sort of compulsion but by his personal influence, by his preaching, by his very excellent administration, by his great ability in dealing with people in such a way as to win them to that which he thought was important, rather than just to force them. We only mention that at this point because it is important ~~with~~ in connection to the downfall of Arianism. Then we mention a fact which people who look at things from a superficial viewpoint would say was the reason for the downfall of Arianism and it is a cause, not The cause but a very important factor.

9. THE ACCESSION OF Theodotius

Now people who look at Church History in a very superficial way and give you a few facts about it, will say, Arianism was triumphant under Constantius and under Valens but then Theodotius put an end to it and made the Nicene Creed triumphant. That is simply not the facts The fact is that Arianism was killed by the efforts of these great Christian leaders whom I have mentioned. The capstone was put on by the actions of the new emperor of the East. We have already mentioned to you in our discussions of the ~~very~~ various emperors, who Theodotius was, how he came from Spain but how ~~he came from~~ Gratian and selected him in the emergency with a Gothic attack ~~in~~ uprising in the main area...selected him for the emperor ship of the east, a friend of Gratian,