

But the church reacted against that. No, the Scripture clearly teaches that he is God. How can you resolve it? You can't. You can't understand it. But both facts are clearly taught in Scripture, so we believe them both. The church during those three centuries went through paroxysms of arguments and discussions of what -- some took the stand he is more of God than man, others took the stand he is more ~~more~~ man than God, and finally Arius began making songs for everyone to sing: There was a time before Jesus Christ was, after that he was begotten, and he created all things after that. He was truly God after that. But there was a time before He was. And the church nearly split in two over it. In 325 at the Council of Nicea they adopted the simple statement that Jesus Christ is of the same substance with the Father. I don't think anyone knows what that means. It does not ~~not~~ mean they are one substance like mud, or clay or something that they both are made of. It certainly doesn't mean that. God is Spirit. It doesn't mean ~~that~~ that. But we all know what it means. It means that Jesus Christ is a real man, but also that Jesus Christ is God. Both are taught in Scripture. We believe it is the foundation of our Christian religion, but how are they fit together? It may be that when we see Him as He is we will become aware of some concept that will make us see how simple it is to understand how this can be. Again, maybe we will never understand. But we know both facts are true about Jesus and it is the very foundation of Christianity.

That was settled at the Council of Nicea people thought, but they ~~still~~ still argued about it at great length for 60 years. Then in 381 at the second council of Constantinople -- I guess that was the first council of Constantinople -- it was definitely agreed by the leaders of the church that he is of the same substance as God