

The Christ Wars

**A Simple Timeline of
Heresies about Jesus**

30 A.D. ... False Christ

54 And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

Matthew 13:54-55

- The Jews in His own country did not know the Christ.
- They reduced Him to nothing more than a prophet.

30 A.D. ... False Christ

13 Jesus asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

Matthew 16:13-14

- He came unto His own ... His own received Him not.
- In spite of dated prophecies and miracles! Blindness!

30 A.D. ... False Christ

42 Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.

43 He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

44 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?

45 If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

Matthew 22:42-45

- The most conservative Jews did not know the Christ!
- His appeal to scripture for His Deity is our mandate.

30 A.D. ... False Christs

“Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; ... For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets ... if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

Matthew 24:5

- Jesus told of false Christs and apostles before 70AD.
- Many liars would come ... they were to be vigilant.
- His advance warning was to help them reject liars.

50 A.D. ... Other Christs

“So your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus ... ye might well bear with him.”

II Corinthians 11:4

- Satan by subtilty could deceive about Christ like Eve.
- Paul warned of false men preaching another Jesus.
- Satan’s ministers will appear as apostles of Christ.

60 A.D. ... Another Christ

“Lest any man beguile you ... Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy ... and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.”

Colossians 2:4,8-9

- Men would beguile from Christ by enticing words.
- Men would spoil believers by philosophy and deceit.
- The full deity of Jesus Christ cannot be compromised.

80 A.D. ... Anti-Christ

“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.”

I John 2:22

- Only John used ... *antichrist* ... and only in his epistles.
- They saw many *antichrists* already before antichrist.
- The antichrist doctrine here is denying Jesus is Christ.

80 A.D. ... Anti-Christ

“And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

I John 4:3

- Spirits were to be tested by the flesh nature of Jesus.
- Only a spirit of antichrist would deny our Lord's flesh.
- Liars were already raging with false doctrine then!

80 A.D. ... Anti-Christ

“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”

II John 1:7

- John warned a lady of the danger of Christ deceivers.
- Only a spirit of antichrist would deny our Lord's flesh.
- Many deceivers were lying with false doctrine then!

False Christs

- 1. Jesus was only a good man.**
- 2. Jesus was only a prophet.**
- 3. Jesus was only the son of David.**
- 4. Some would claim Christ themselves.**
- 5. Paul feared doctrine of another Jesus.**
- 6. Paul feared corruption by philosophy.**
- 7. John said some denied Jesus is Christ.**
- 8. John said some denied His flesh body.**

100 A.D. ... Gnosticism

- Greek (“having knowledge”) taken from many religions.
- The material world was avoided for a spiritual world.
- The demiurge is a lesser god that made the universe.
- Gnosis (knowledge) is got by charity & asceticism.
- Gnosticism, 2nd century heresy, came from Plato, etc.

100 A.D. ... Cerinthus

- A contemporary and opponent of the apostle John.
- He combined Gnosticism with Judaistic Christianity.
- He denied the deity of Jesus Christ as God in flesh.
- He denied Jesus is Christ, but Christ came on Jesus.
- An inferior emanation of *The God* created matter.

100 A.D. ... Ebionites

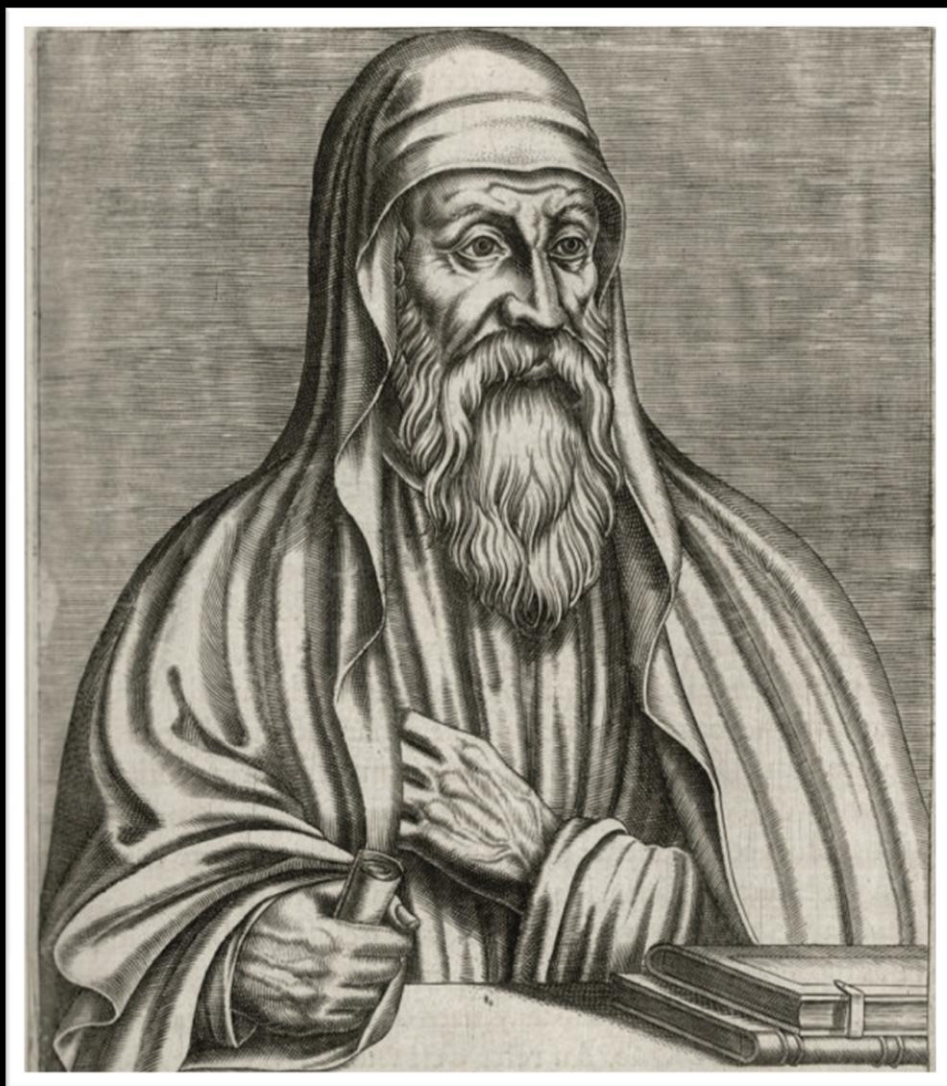
- A group of poor Jews opposing apostolic Christianity.
- Believed Jesus was the Messiah (Christ) but not God.
- Required continuation of the Jewish laws and rituals.
- They counted Paul an apostate for rejecting the Law.
- They practiced asceticism and poverty like Essenes.

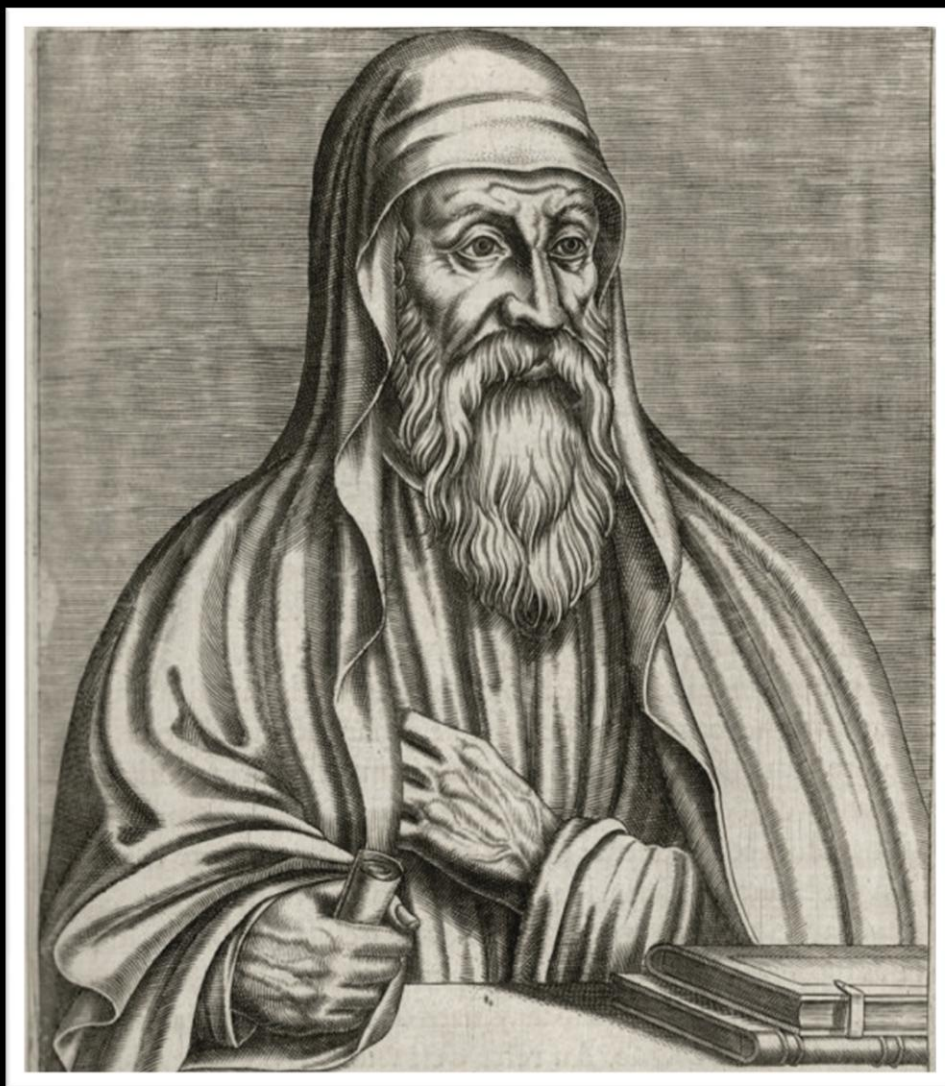
200 A.D. ... Docetism

- Denied literal, physical history of Jesus with a body.
- Jesus only seemed to be human ... a mere illusion.
- They claimed their doctrine in the gospel of Peter.
- Their heresy came from confusion about John 1:14.
- Note the Satanic efforts to deny Jesus various ways.

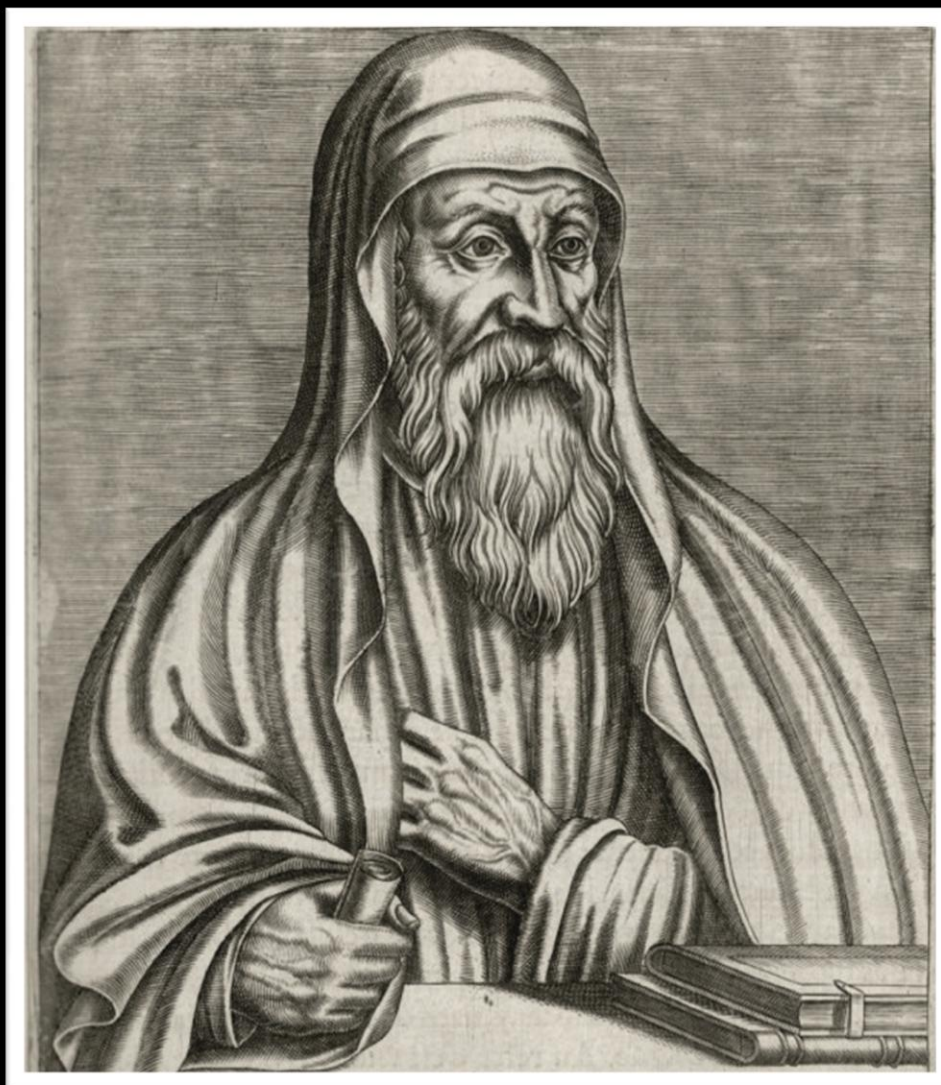
215 A.D. ... Sabellius

- Denied trinity of three distinct persons in one God.
- Believed that Father, Son, Holy Ghost were modes.
- Thus, it is called Sabellianism or Modalism (modes).
- The three titles are only offices or faces of God.
- These heretics baptized in the name of Jesus only.





(185-253)



Origen (185-253)

230 A.D. ... Origen

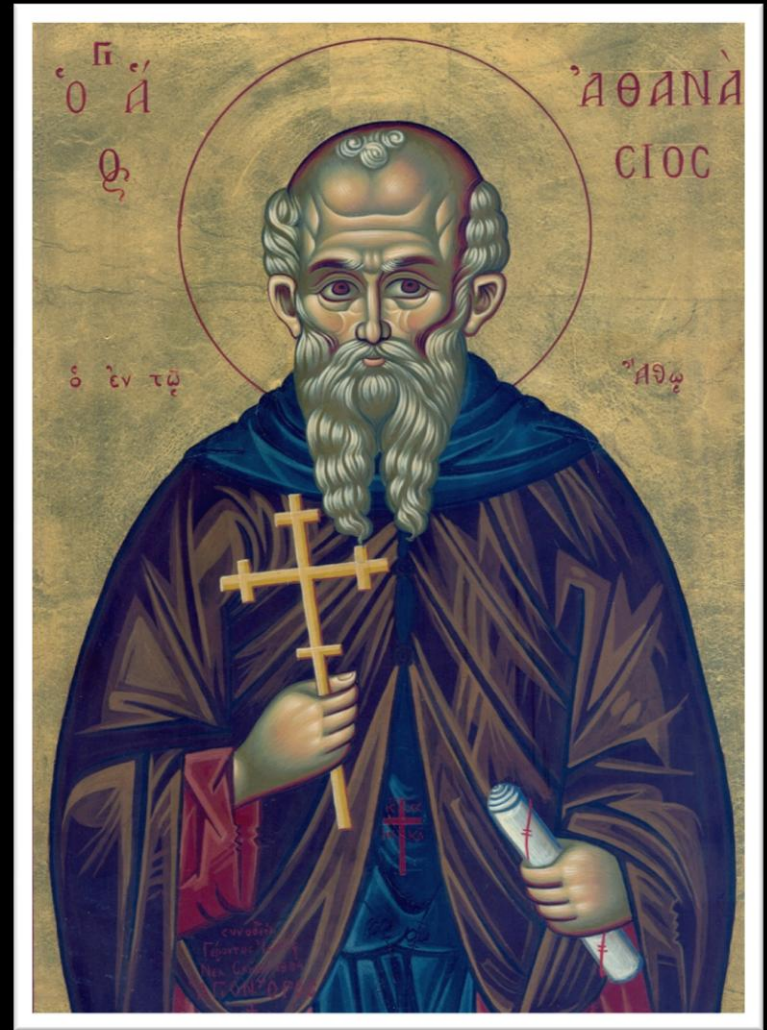
- He was a theological speculator from Alexandria.
- He had so many heresies even RCC did not canonize.
- He held pre-existence of souls and salvation of devil.
- By Eusebius, many believe he cut himself a eunuch.
- His own doctrine of God and Christ was damnable.

230 A.D. ... Origen

- Origen originated the heresy ... “eternal generation.”
- He held the Logos-Word to be inferior to the Father.
- He held the generated “eternal Son” created all else.
- Origen knew eternal generation required inferiority.
- He altered John 1:1 (a god) and 1:18 (begotten God).



Arius (256-336)



Athanasius (296-373)



Constantine the Great (306-337)

325 A.D. ... Council of Nicea

- State church council called by Constantine in Turkey.
- They resolved the Christ issue, wrote the first part of the creed, settled Easter date, and early canon law.
- Arius consistently held a begotten God as a creature.
- Athanasius took orthodox side with Origen's terms.
- Arius is first JW heretic, and all others Nicene heretics.

325 A.D. ... Nicene Creed

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

- How was Jesus Christ begotten before all worlds?
- How is He God of God? This is emanation heresy.

328 A.D. ... Arius Private Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty; and in the Lord Jesus Christ, his Son, who was begotten of him before all ages, the Divine Logos, through whom all things were made.

- If the Nicene Creed is truth ... then Arius is orthodox!
- The problem is eternal generation Nicene language.

1529 A.D. ... Luther's Small Catechism

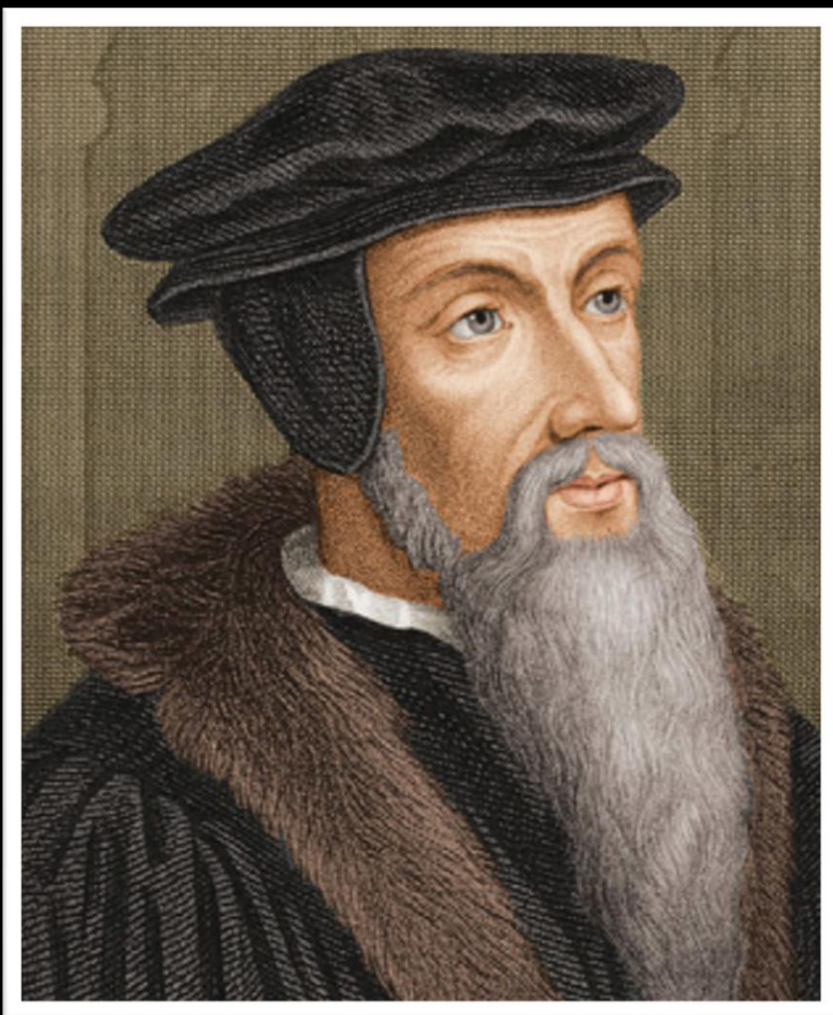
“I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity ... is my Lord.”

- We skipped 1000 years of Dark Ages under Rome.
- Luther, a Reformer, kept the Nicene terms of Rome.
- Detect and despise a begotten God in any form.

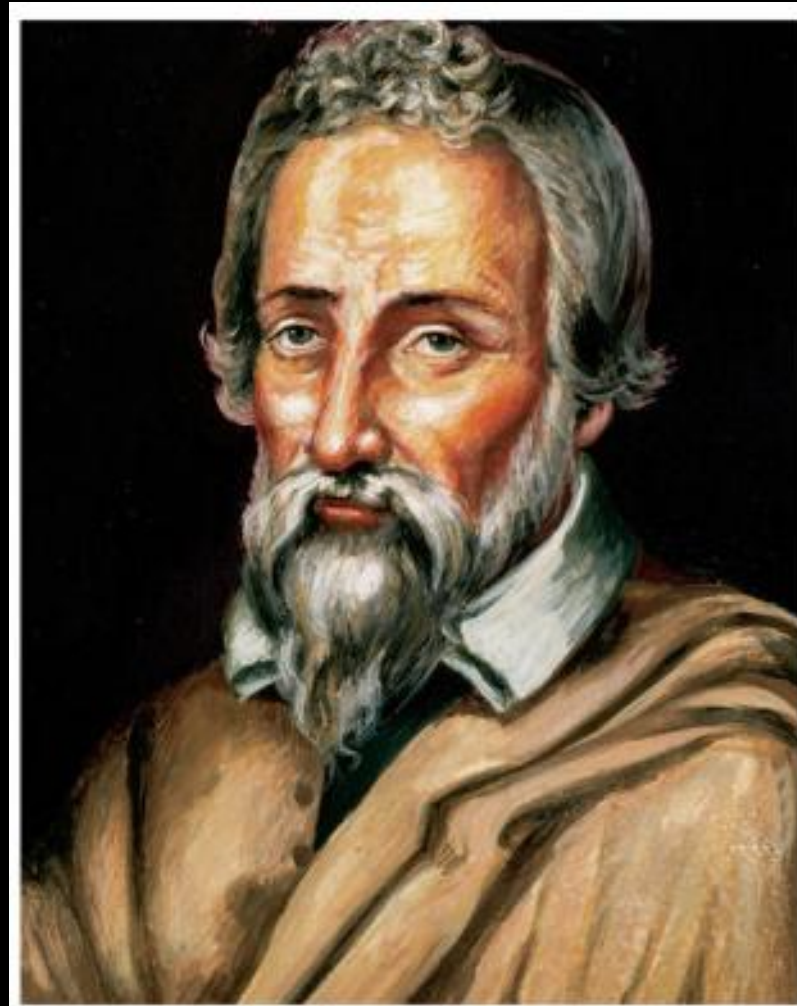
1546 A.D. ... Council of Trent

“And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, and born of the Father before all ages; God of God, light of light, true God of true God; begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, by whom all things were made.”

- Here is Rome’s blast against the Reformation.
- The terminology of Origen continues on unabated.



John Calvin (1509-1564)



Michael Servetus (1511-1553)

**Why did John Calvin
have Michael Servetus
burned at the stake?**

For Two Crimes:

- 1. Denied eternal sonship**
- 2. Rejected infant baptism**

We Are Not Calvinists!

1561 A.D. ... Dutch Reformed

“We believe that Jesus Christ, according to his divine nature, is the only begotten son of God, begotten from eternity, not made nor created (for then he would be a creature), but co-essential and co-eternal with the Father... Who is the Son of God, not only from the time that he assumed our nature, but from all eternity...”

- Note the words that Jesus is son in His divine nature.

1563 A.D. ... Church of England

“The Son, which is the Word of the Father, begotten from everlasting of the Father, the very and eternal God, and of one substance with the Father... The Nicene Creed ... ought thoroughly to be received and believed: for they may be proved by most certain warrants of Holy Scripture.”

- Jesus ... begotten from everlasting... by Nicene truth!

1574 A.D. ... Socinians

- Anti-Trinitarians ... Laelius Socinus & Faustus Socinus.
- They also denied that Jesus Christ was truly God.
- They held other heresies they considered rational.
- They were initially in Poland until forced to leave.
- They are the basis for very liberal Unitarians today.

1647 A.D. ... Westminster Confession

“The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Spirit eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.”

- Notice how different the Father and Son are here.
- How in the world did they get “eternally begotten”?
- Why can’t the Holy Spirit proceed at Pentecost?

1658 A.D. ... Savoy (Congregational)

“The Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.”

- Notice how different the Father and Son are here.
- How in the world did they get “eternally begotten”?
- Note all the religious copycats with Nicene language.

1689 A.D. ... London (Baptist)

“The Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy proceeding from the Father and the Son.”

- Notice how different the Father and Son are here.
- How in the world did they get “eternally begotten”?
- Shame! Baptists crawling to Presbyterians and Rome!

1742 A.D. ... Philadelphia (Baptist)

“The Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy proceeding from the Father and the Son.”

- Notice how different the Father and Son are here.
- How in the world did they get “eternally begotten”?
- If they seek lineage of truth ... go back to the Bible!

1774 A.D. ... Philadelphia (Baptist)

Question 3 – In what respect is Christ the only begotten Son of God?

Answer – 1. Not with respect to His human nature; for He was the only begotten Son of God before.... 4. It remains, then, that He was the only begotten Son of God by eternal generation, inconceivable and mysterious.

- Indeed, it truly is “inconceivable and mysterious”!

1900 A.D. ... Fulton (Primitive Baptist)

“The Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy proceeding from the Father and the Son.”

- Primitive Baptists worship antiquity by any means.
- They hijacked the 1689 Confession and corrupted it.
- They used the RCC/Nicene language to condemn CJ.

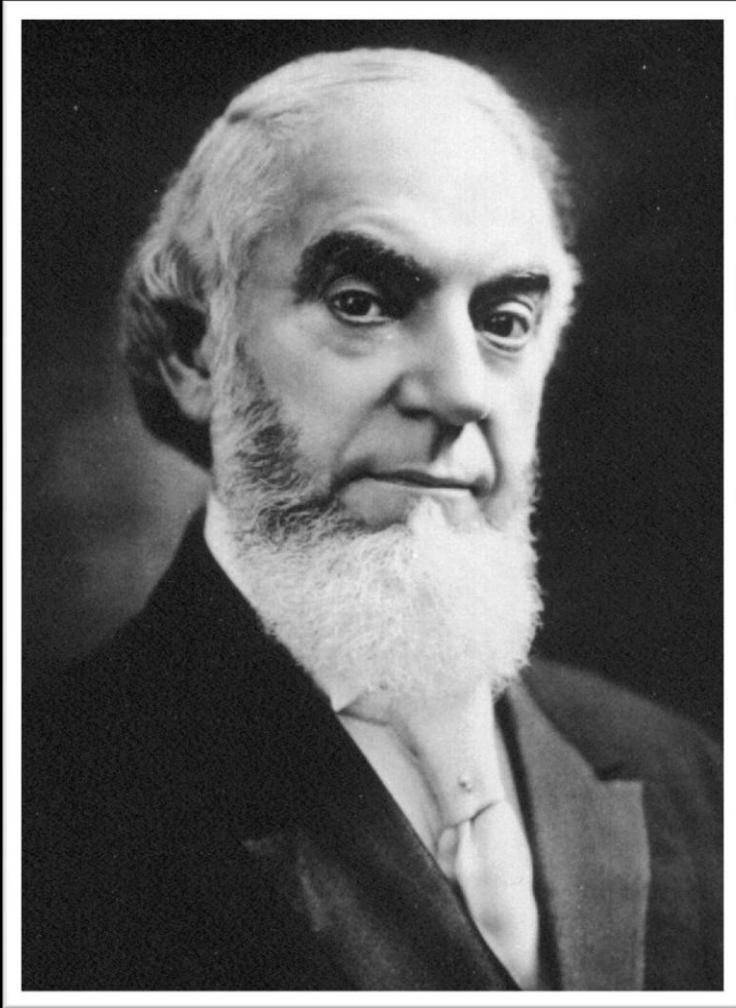
1646 A.D. ... London (Baptist)

In this divine and infinite Being there is the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; each having the whole divine Essence, yet the Essence undivided; all infinite without any beginning, therefore but one God; who is not to be divided in nature, and being, but distinguished by several peculiar relative properties.

- Samuel Richardson, a signer, hated eternal generation.
- He denounced it in his answer to *The Dipper Dipt*.

1860 A.D. ... English Strict Baptists

- They divided roughly in half by sonship controversy.
- J.C. Philpot (1802-69) led the eternal sonship segment.
- James Wells (1803-72) led the incarnate sonship voice.
- Philpot's followers became Gospel Standard Baptists.
- Incarnate sonship Baptists remained Strict Baptists.



Charles Taze Russell

1852-1916

Founder JW's

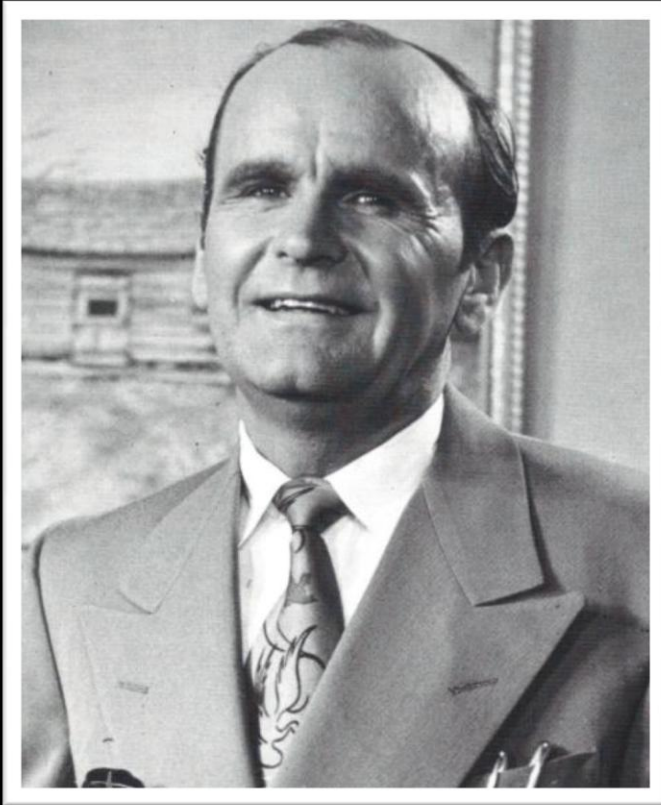
A real Arian like Arius

Jesus is a lesser god

The Word was a god

Jesus a begotten god

Jesus was a creature



William M. Branham
1909-1965

Oneness Pentecostal

Claimed to be Elijah

Trinity a RCC heresy

One God – three modes

Jesus-only baptism

1961 A.D. ... NWT of the JW's

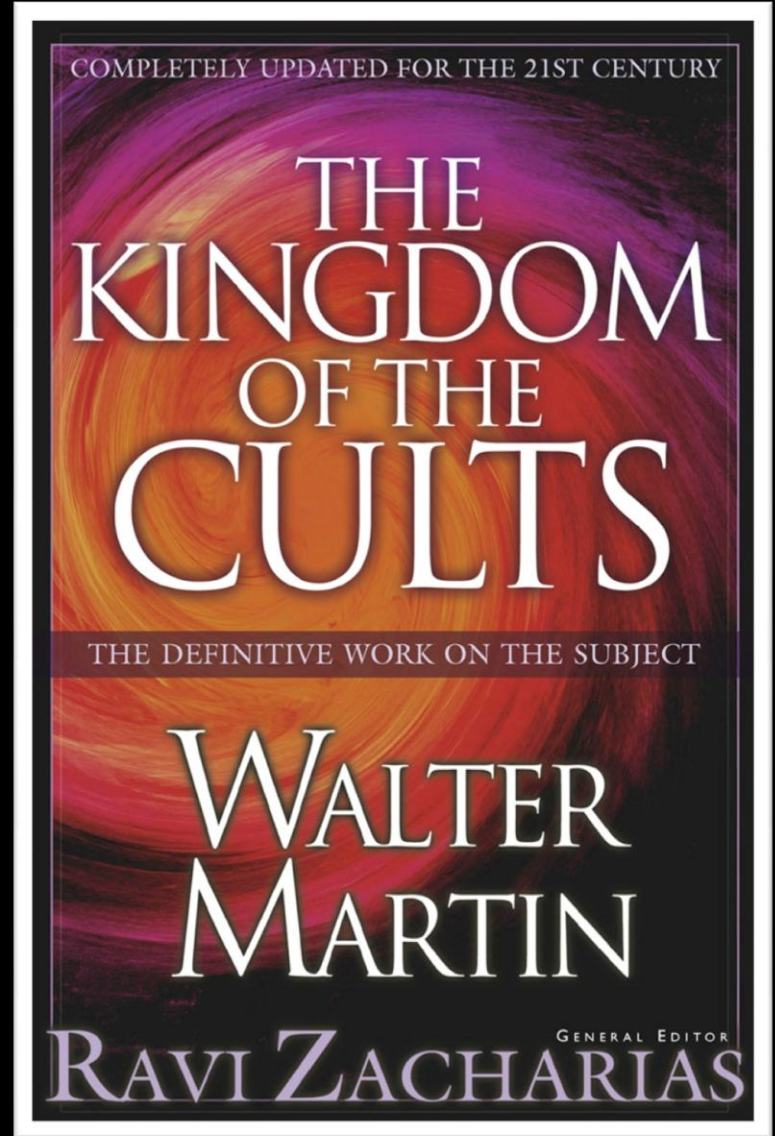
“In the beginning was the Word ... the Word was a god.”

“The only-begotten god who is at the Father's side....”

- These modern Arians have no guilt or shame.
- Their “Bible” is considered a joke by all but them.
- These 8M and 18M SDA are by one ignorant Baptist.



Walter R. Martin



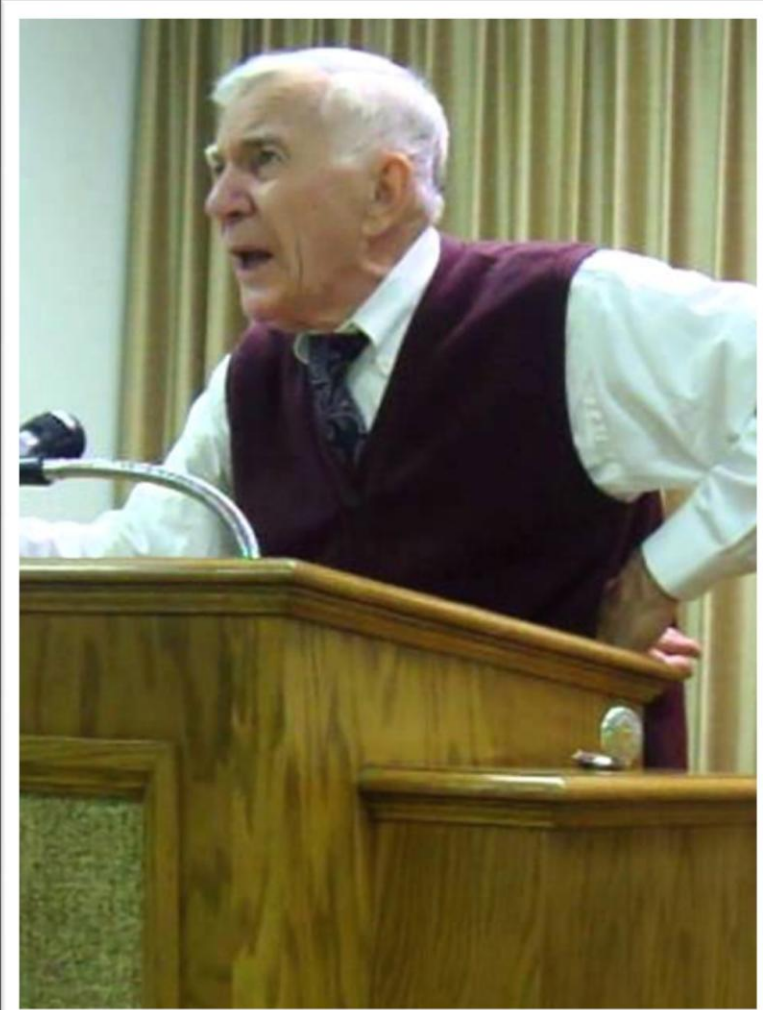
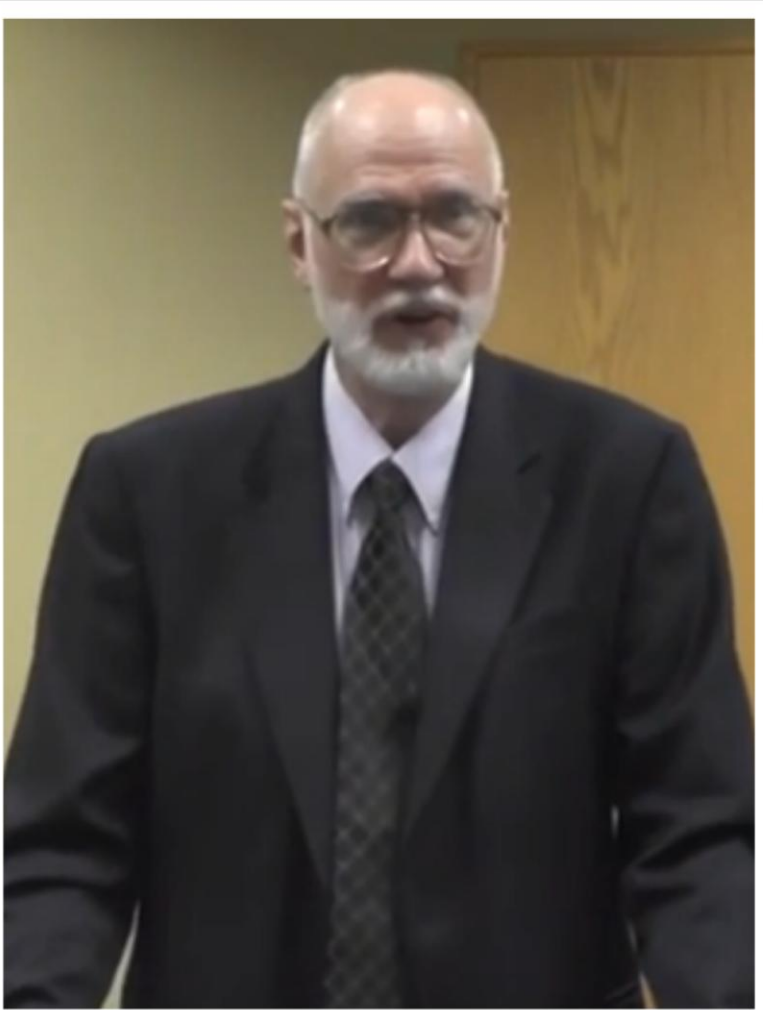
1965 A.D. ... Walter R. Martin

- A popular apologist and anti-cult writer/speaker.
- He wrote the best seller, *The Kingdom of the Cults*.
- The part against the JW's had extensive Christology.
- He precisely explained the error of the Nicene Creed.
- He showed how eternal generation gave away Christ.

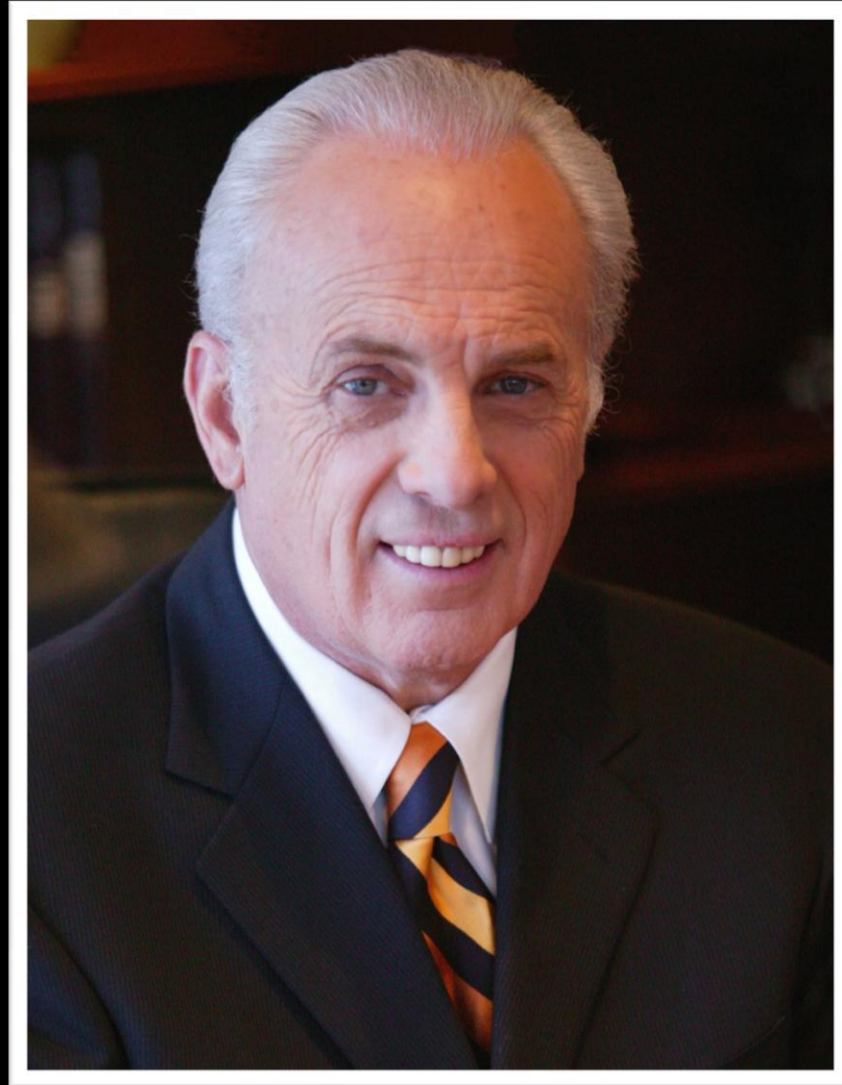
1971 A.D. ... NASB of BJU

“The only begotten God who is in the bosom....”

- This ridiculous translation followed the JW’s NWT.
- This Bible was promoted at BJU as most accurate.
- Stuart Custer would not admit any doctrinal bias.
- Most do not know they believe in a begotten God!



Primitive Baptist Sonship Controversy – 1978/79



John F. MacArthur (1939-)

John F. MacArthur

- He held incarnate sonship. See Heb 1 commentary.
- He defended it in **1989** to a meeting of IFCA pastors.
- Here is a recording ... <http://www.gty.org/resources/sermons/90-36>.
- He recanted in **1999** and published his change.
- Here it is ... <http://www.gty.org/resources/articles/A235/reexamining-the-eternal-sonship-of-christ>.

The War Is Not Over

- **JW's and Unitarians deny that Jesus is God.**
- **Unitarians and Oneness Pentecostals deny Trinity.**
- **Everyone demands eternal sonship for Jesus Christ.**
- **They accuse us of denying the Trinity or His Deity.**
- **They accuse us of Socinianism and other slanders.**

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Sermon Audio Required Confession

1. The Absolute Authority and Divine Verbal Inspiration of the Old and New Testaments as the **Word of God**.
2. There is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead, there are **three Persons**, equal in power and glory, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.
3. **The Eternal Sonship, Virgin Birth, and Deity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**
4. The personality of God the **Holy Spirit**, and the absolute necessity of His work in Regeneration and Sanctification, and His Infilling of the Indwelt Believer for power to live and witness for Christ.

8 Precious Facts

- 1. Our God is One Jehovah.**
- 2. Jehovah is a Trinity of Three.**
- 3. The Word is God unbegotten.**
- 4. The Word made flesh is Jesus.**
- 5. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah.**
- 6. Jesus Christ had a full flesh body.**
- 7. Jesus is Son of God by incarnation.**
- 8. Jesus is the uncreated Creator of all.**

Our God is One Jehovah

**Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one
LORD:**

Deuteronomy 6:4

Jehovah is a Trinity of Three

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

1 John 5:7

The Word is God Unbegotten

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

The Word Made Flesh is Jesus

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Jesus is the Christ (Messiah)

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

John 20:31

Jesus had a full flesh Body

**That which was from the beginning,
which we have heard, which we have
seen with our eyes, which we have looked
upon, and our hands have handled, of the
Word of life;**

I John 1:1

Jesus is Son of God by Incarnation

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:35

Jesus is uncreated Creator of All

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:3

What Will We Do for Jesus Christ?

- We will embrace John's writings and apostolic truth.
- We will precisely define doctrine and defend all of it.
- We will fully believe and declare all that Jesus truly is.
- We will never change without a tsunami of evidence.
- We will conform our lives to match our doctrine.

For Further Study:

Sonship of Jesus Christ ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/bible/christ/sonship-of-christ.php>.

Confusion ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/god/is-god-the-author-of-confusion/sermon.php>.

One-Word Arguments ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/one-word-arguments-titus.pdf>.

Why Not Reformed Baptists ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/reformed-baptists.pdf>.

Intro to Gospel of John ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/john-introduction.pdf>.

Charts of Christology Heresies

[http://www.saintwiki.com/index.php?title=Topic:Early Church Fathers/Fathers and Councils of the Church/Chart of Historical Christological Heresies](http://www.saintwiki.com/index.php?title=Topic:Early_Church_Fathers/Fathers_and_Councils_of_the_Church/Chart_of_Historical_Christological_Heresies)

[http://www.apptoteach.org/Theology/Christ/pdf/514 Heresies chart.pdf](http://www.apptoteach.org/Theology/Christ/pdf/514_Heresies_chart.pdf)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_heresies#Trinitarian.2FChristological

<http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/christ-wars-timeline-02-16-2017.pdf>

www.LetGodBeTrue.com