Period 3
Constantine to Charlemagne (312 – 800)

Lesson 7

Jonathan Wheatley

August 12, 2018

Ism's Throughout the Periods of Church History

1. Early Ism's in the Apostolic Age (33 – 100)
2. Post – Apostolic to Constantine (100 – 312)
3. **Constantine to Charlemagne (312 – 800)**
4. Charlemagne to Luther (800 – 1517)
5. Reformation – Specific groups (1517 – 1648)
6. Modern Denominationalism (1648 – 1880)
7. 19th Century Proliferation (1881 - Current)

Constantine The Great (AD 272-337)

- Acclaimed Emperor upon his father's death in York AD 307

- Ruled the Roman Empire from 307-337

- Worshipped the Sun god Mithras, but was brought up to regard the God of Christians with favour.

- Had a vision before the Battle of Milvian Bridge (313) "In this sign conquer"

- Edict of Milan (313) exempted Clergy from military & municipal property from taxation. Established a Gold standard to combat inflation

- Saw himself as a "bishop of bishops"

- Set up Byzantium as the New Rome (Constantinople) when Rome refused to accept the new religion

- Did not accept baptism until right before his death in 337

Period 3.a. Arianism

1. Reference: Jn.4:6, Matt. 24:36

2. Essential Theory, Belief, or Practice: A. The Son was created out of nothing; hence, he is different in essence from the Father; that he is Logos, Wisdom, Son of God, is only of grace. He is not so in Himself. B. there was a time when he was not; i.e., he is a finite being.

3. Principle Character: Arius, a presbyter of the Alexandrian Church, was taught in Antioch. He was refuted by Athanasius who emphasized the *Personality* of the Son. This was "settled" at the Council of Nicea 325.

4. Scriptural Refutation:
   a. Jesus is God Jn. 10:30, 20:28, Ti. 2:13, Heb.1:8,
   b. He is truly human – Rom.1:2-4, 1 Jn.4:2-3, Lk. 19:41, Jn. 19:28
   c. He claimed the Divine name (Jn.8:58) and did things only God can do Mk.2:1-12, Lk. 7:48-50, Rom.10:9, 2 Jn.1:7
   d. God the Son became a man Jn.1:1,4,14; Heb.2:17, Gal.4:4-5. He will forever possess two distinct, yet inseparable natures.