

to see why (in a sympathetic sense) the emphasis of Tertullian was more real with his intended audience...to denounce the "reason" concept. In this corner it is thought that this is an important distinction...the weapon used should suit the battle.

Summary note:
Reason:

But in summary, the authority of reason was not uniformly agreed upon. It had greater or less value depending on the user.

Authority
in
Tradition

2, The Authority of Tradition..a loaded term with connotations and denotations that alarm and distress. But still a very important factor in any consideration and we do well to give it serious consideration.

a. The term has a twofold meaning:

(1) The simple carryover of ideas. An example is found in 1 Peter 1:18 (compounded with "father") .-.patroparadotou...the carryover of the ideas of the fathers.

The basic ideas
in the term
"tradition"

(2) And it is also used to show something authoritatively delivered. This usage is given in the New Testament in two areas:

- (a) Deliverance of Divine Truth 1 Cor. 11:2
- (b) Deliverance of Human Ideas Col. 2:8

The Greek term is paradosis in both cases.

b. In the Ante-Nicene period there are at least three varieties of tradition in view:

Ante-Nicene
Views of
Tradition

(1) (Apostolic testimony..the matter of what the Apostles said and witnessed concerning the Truth. (See 2 Peter 1 for a Biblical representation.)

(2) Apostolic tradition...meaning what the apostles taught...both in what is later incorporated in the Scripture and in what was assumed to be their opinions.

(3) Secret, ecclesiastical opinion, or the way in which the church both viewed matters and interpreted Scripture. This increases in value and usefulness as time goes on and is a means for "defending" the church interpretations against alternate schemes. To know this sort of tradition, of course, one must be rightly connected in the church.

Summary
Note:

c. Summary of the view of traditional materials as seen in the Fathers:

(1) That which was "carried over" was subject to being confirmed by the Scripture, not vice-versa.