

the ministry and an urged asceticism for all those who professed to be believers. Flagellants appear later in the church (in any quantity) and the thrust of the first centuries was to see the body in its vehicular capacity while noticing its inherent weakness and the importance of not yielding to same.

(4) Regarding sin in particular

Origen felt that the present bodily confinement of the soul was a proof of sin and rebellion. To the Alexandrian fathers the condemnation of man was not for what he was but for what and how he exercised his spirit. The African fathers generally saw guilt and condemnation from original sin. Great wickedness was promoted, in Tertullian's mind, by the fact that man was born in sin and he moved his will in accord with his disposition. Origen felt that the great wicked thrusts in the world was intended as a sort of educational example from our forebears.

Anthropology:

The image of God was marred by sin
Sin

*Origen of soul
- Introduced - Soul in Adam
- Creation in - Soul created at birth*

The student, among other things, should see how difficult it is to prove something from the Fathers. But it is not hard to see general tendencies and the need for grace is one of those. You will also see that most of our theologies today are hopelessly eclectic...gathered from the widespread opinions of many different sources. In this class, that is thought of as a good point but there are those who disagree and feel there should be a uniformity of tradition and expression.

b. Selected Readings (suggested)

Origen: De Principiis: Book 2:8.1

Martyr: First Apology: 43

Irenaeus: Against Heresies 3:37.1

Arnobius: Seven Books Against the Heathen
I. 64, 65.

c. Observations:

(1) Probably the influence of allegorizing philosophy shows up in the thinking of the Alexandrian fathers with regard to the creation and existence of the soul. We need more time on the allegorization matter so, note this:

Allegorizing (the giving of secondary meanings) easily becomes a means of making one system of thinking acceptable in quarters where it might otherwise be unacceptable. It easily is a means

Anthropology:

Reading Suggestions.