

saturated logos (or vice versa) assumed a body which became so deified as to gather the proportion of ubiquity.

Christology:
Some
Suggested
Readings

b. Selected Readings (Suggested)

- (1) Irenaeus: Fragment 53
- (2) 1 Clement: To the Corinthians 36,37
- (2) Cyprian: Second Treatise Against the Jews: figure 10.

c. Observations:

(1) The formulations on Christology clearly show the philosophic bind in which many of the fathers saw themselves. On one hand they sought to expound the Scripture while on the other to meet the charges of the day and to defend the person of Christ from the "god-concepts" that roamed their world.

Christology:
Observations

(2) In your general reading you will find that Tertullian and Irenaeus are closer to the later synods of the church in their formal statements. At this point the African School is generally somewhat more Biblical than the schools of Alexandria and/or Asia Minor. Not to be overlooked, however, is the work of Gregory Thaumaturgos and in a few following years, the works of the Cappadocian fathers (but in the next period).

4. Soteriology (Subjective Christology)

This is not such a great study in the Ante-Nicene epoch chiefly because (I think) the early church accepted at face value the very simple idea that the death of Christ was for us..in a rather inexplicable way. As Kelly notes (many times) they expressed the atonement in very simple and personal terms but the exact spelling out of the ideas involved would need to wait for later times.

Soteriology
(Subjective
Christology)

Concept of the Atonement

Summary

*Most of this theology not well
developed till 1400 AD*

*Some say the death was a
Payment to Satan.*

a. Summary

(1) Christ's Death and the results to the believer.

(a) Before Tertullian little is said as to its form or basis for satisfaction or justification. It is seen more frequently (and simply) as a way to new life and repentance of the old life.

(b) With the coming of the Polemicists, Christ's death is seen in a more foundational sense but the way into life is associated with baptism.