

b. A chart of the major scholastic contributors is found on page 16 of this syllabus. (Well, it is really just a list.

c. The Scholastic problem

As noted, scholasticism tended to undermine honest Biblical authority..probably unintentionally but with pretty genuine effect just the same. It did this largely through a twofold move which we will likely discuss at some length.

(1) the elevation of philosophy

(2) the redefinition and defense of tradition.

d. The Resultant picture

At the close of this time of ~~diminution~~ diminution of the Biblical authority, we might note the following brief summary:

(1) The Word is obscured..not available to most and not understandable to those to whom it is available.

(2) The interpretation is unlikely...even the monks and priests have little skill in the actual study of the Bible (there are some exceptions, of course) and the common man has the right to the Word denied him through the ignorance

(3) Authoritarianism is the order of the day. All are tremendously dependent on the hierarchical structure for knowledge and "salvation." The authority of the Word is minimal at best.

E. The Challenge of the Reformers

1. Early Revisionists...We will only sketch these and their particular emphases in the briefist of fashions. The student should know that there are always heroes who are overlooked in historical analysis and villains who are given too much time.

a. Wycliffe...the vernacular Bible and a priesthood ordered by it and submissive to it. The Bible would govern both aspects of church and state life.