

baptismal stress is best understood in the pressure of time and in what the fathers thought the meaning of baptism to be. It is not an easy study but the fathers generally are more emphatic on ordinance/sacrament than are most of us.

on Atonement: he understands the vicarious picture but does not give specifically clear statements as to how it is worked out. The needed wording on this doctrine will not be devised until the middle ages.

on Christian life:

The thrust is for the highest morality with a life of self-denial and moderate ascetic values. His influence is pronounced in educational method and the better development of theology and theological statement. The Montanist posture has hurt his image but is hardly seen in his teaching.

Hippolytus (ca. 235)

A martyr for the truth, Hippolytus distinguished himself as a protector of orthodoxy through a powerful work THE REFUTATION OF ALL HERESIES. We do not know a lot about his life but he held a bishopric in the third century and was canonized in the eleventh century and then became known as an anti-pope in the nineteenth century when the fuller text of his work was known. In the REFUTATION he labels Callistus as an unworthy bishop of Rome and a monarchian..which descriptions he also passes to the predecessor, Zephyrinus. (Callistus, incidentally, was a slave who was converted, gained freedom, and eventually became a bishop of Rome..but identified in a not very complimentary way by Hippolytus.) He accuses these men of accepting the theological notions of Noetus.

In addition to this work, we have much of his commentary on Daniel which, according to Toon in the WESTMINSTER DICTIONARY, is a new issuing of a work for a former father. He is better known today than he was fifty years ago and considerable research is being done in his life and ministry.

Novatian (258 AD)

Leader of the Roman schism, Novatian was also a polemicist of considerable skill and demonstrated it in an able work, THE TRINITY. It is important in the light of the discussion that will come in the next period when the church is working through all the questions