

3. The Complications of history

This is a bit over-simplified but the major complicating factors (other than teachers) as recognized by me are:

- a. incomplete accounts
- b. prejudiced records or accounts (!)
- c. inequities in account reconciliation
- d. emotional disfavor of authors
- e. distrust of the historical process
- f. poor chronology and synchronisms

4. The Problems of History

These grow from the complications, of course, and we itemize the following:

- a. determining the significance of what and why something was written
- b. discerning the motive and modus operandi of the writer
- c. determining basic concepts seen in situations and events that cast a shadow on later matters.
- d. applying history to the present realm.
- e. distinguishing the relative importance of ideas, events, etc.

E. **Bringing this Course into Focus**

You may have thought we would never get around to it but we are now at that point and will work on the course with some key ideas.

1. The Nature of the course

This course is a survey of the growth of Christianity and the development of Christian ideals