

III. THE CHURCH SURVIVES

Ante-Nicene Period  
150-325 AD

Discussion Overview

A quick review on how the course goes!

Information pages..27-28 and at other times as well.

## A. The trials of the Church

1. Persecutions
  - imperial policies
  - major persecutions: methods, outcome
  - legalization of Christianity
2. Philosophies
  - Gnosticism
  - Platonism
  - the older paganism
  - syncretisms
  - rival religious systems
3. Developed Heresies
  - Monarchianism
  - Montanism

## B. The Means of Survival

1. Commitment
2. Missionary emphasis
3. Church development: the "sees" and the holy life concepts
4. Leaders:
  - Apologists
  - Polemicists
  - Shepherds
5. Writings

## C. Summary

You will remember that the Lord gave the promise of building the church..but, under the will of God, the development of the local institutions is very much the business of His people. God willed the church's survival..it was implemented by those who trusted Him and committed themselves to His Truth.