

items of tradition, and some things that are pure conjecture. What is written will lie within these confines and remember...the fact that it is written does not in itself mean it is right. Often we are not able to sort out the categories on an exact basis and that is one of the games of history.

2) Cultural developments such as art, literature, language, etc.

3) Interpretations of both subsequent and contemporary origins found in the masses of literature that accompany any change or emerging pattern.

4) Reconstructions including hypotheses (tested? rejected? accepted?) and the correction of existing impressions by the discovery of new material.

I.7.b

Complications of History

Much of this is self apparent so I will just list some items and hope that common intelligence will fill them in...such trust!

- 1) incomplete accounts
- 2) prejudiced records or accounts
- 3) inequities in account reconciliation
- 4) emotional disfavor of authors
- 5) distrust of the historical process

I.7.c

Particular Problems of History

Once again we resort to listing a few, not all, but the ones that especially interest us in the history of the church:

1) determining the significance of what is written and why it was (is) written. This involves the eventual reading between the lines and other dangerous practices which are, nevertheless, needed for any hope of historical understanding.

2) discerning the motivation of the writer

(3) defining basic concepts and sifting out the principles that account for them