# EVENING NEWS.

Saturday, . November 26, 1887.

LECTURE

On "The Establishment and Abolishment of the Primitive Church."

The following lecture was recently

### delivered by Elder James A. Leishman, in the Logan Temple:

The subject now before us, being one of such vast importance to the human family, and especially to the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, who are called in these days to preach the Gospel in its fulness, has induced me to undertake a task of so small proportions, that of tracing from the history of the past, the establishment of the Christian Church and its subsequent decadence and abslishment. I do not do this, however, without a full recognition of the fact that many of the Elders of the eternal life, and these were they that Church have written upon this subject, who have elucidated many events and incidents connected with it, and in this connection I do not wish nor hope to transcend the efforts that have been put forth; nor to eclipse the light that has open thrown upon this all-impor-tant subject. To an intelligent mind there is no subject of more

### VITAL INTEREST,

than this, nor around which cluster so many serious consequences to man-kind, namely, that they should be in possession of a true, valid, and living relizion.

When it is taken into account that man is a moral, intelligent and respon slble being, and that his whole organism is adapted to and reachers after the supernatural and divine life, with eternal felicity; it is obvious that the method employed to attain these taings, should be of such a character as will coable him to obtain them. I appears reasonable that an end so de sirable as eternal felicity, should be predicated upon certain unalterable conditions, in smuch as the desire of the human heart has been presuma ly the same in all ages. The physical, mental, spiritual, and intellectual capacities of the race are susceptible of the same impressions, the same ad vancement, the same progression and elevation towards the spiritual and di vine life; notwithstanding the counter fact, that mankind have not made the same advancement in some periods that they have in others. This has not been due to their want of susceptioni ty in that direction, but rather to the perversity of their nature, based upon the free agency which is innuite in al mankind. From these deductions it is evident that the one thing so greatly to be desired, namely,

#### ETERNAL LIFE,

would be predicated upon the same conditions, which operate inexorably throughout the ages of mankind Toal the attainment of the same blessing so devoutly wished for, can only b achieved by one invariable method appears reasonable and consistent From the best authority to be found which is the sacred writings of holy and inspired men who have written and spoken in the different ages of the world, and whose words live and ap pear like living fire up in the pages of history, the truth of which is attested by their own weight, inform us that -Qod created the heavens and the earth. and placed man upon it for specific

purposes. a as placed upon his own agency

peoples cotemporary with the Jews, it will be safe to state that all were STONED HIM TO DEATH. The various sects then existing, alheathen or pagan, without any faith in though differing with each other in the Moses and the prophets, and were tenets of their faith and practice, unitpractising the various forms of their ed in their denusciations against the doctrines of Christianity; and while respective mythologies; and few were in a condition to comprehend and rethe Greeks, Romans, and other nationceive the sublime doctrine taught by alities embraced in the empire, were Jesus. The pagan world was tossed not believers in either Judaism, or Christianity, they nevertheless enter-tained ideas imbibed from the mytholoto and fro with the erratic vagaries of its philosophers, and absurdities of the grossest kind were entertained regies to which they belonged, that were specting the genii that presided over the destinies of the multitudinous in deadly opposition to he spirit and teachings of the Apostles. But there affairs of their superstitions life. was one happy feature in the economy From the foregoing portrayal of the

of the Roman government, that for a civil and religious world then existing, short periodafter the Ascension, selved the outlook at the advent of the Sathe outlook at the advent of the Sa-vior, was anything but promising for a universal acceptance of the doctrines of Christianity. The Savior began His ministry when about 30 years of age, by quietly discussing the object of His mission, and gradually introducing among the Jews those sublime truths pertaining to the plan of redemption, affairs, being ruled over by those apthat He was the Son of God, the prom-ised Salloh; thrusting upon their nopointed by the Roman senate. This custom, to some extent, re-strained the hostility that arose against the many sayings of the prophets in which they claimed to believe, which spoke of Him, and upon one occasion telling them to search the Scriptures,

A HETEROGENEOUS SOURCE,

nection with the persecution that arose

for in them they thought they had testified of Him.

THE BENIGN PRECEPTS

which He inculcated, such as returning good for evil, to love their enemies, to pray for those who despitefully used them, when smitten on the one check phases of Judaism and Paganism, as to turn the other, if asked for their also some who belonged to the various coat they were to give their cloak also; schools of philosophy, the la ter class were regarded by a people who had been accustomed to exact an eye for that are now termed atheists. It is

an eye and a tooth for a tooth, as in- | evident that from such tolerable; and that He was the Son of God was looked upon as blaspiemy. He continually encountered the criticlams of the learned and the Rabbi's to the Gospel, were more or less imamong the Jews, who felt that the bud with the errors of those systems teachings of the Savior, if accepted, to which they were formerly attached, would supplant Judaism in all, its and it appears that many of such, after forms, and work a revolution in the becoming members of the Caurch, la moral, civil and religious world.

Christ openly denounced the hypocrisy against them, and the darkness that of the Jaws, and dissected with unerprevailed, gave way to the current of ring precision the absurd notions enerror existing, and lost, to a zreat ex tertained by them respecting the in-alequacy of their system and the puetent, the spirit of the Gospel, and lapsed into those views and errors, ity of their claim to the recognition of the Almighty. John the Baptist, who was the herald those times, that heresies were introand forerunner of Jesus, had previousduced among the courches, requiring y announced the appearance of the all the expostulation in the power of avior. John was an important factor the apostles to counteract. a the introduction of Christianity, for it appears by the record that Christ departure, and the intolerance that was baptized by him, which event suddenly sprung up against the Saints, notably establishes the fact that Jesus the apostles spoke in prophetic lanpracticed the doctrines He taught by guage of the falling away that was subscribing to the same condition that portended in the incroduction among He asked others to comply with, in the churches of faise doctrises and order to be saved. pagan ideas. That they deplored the signs of the times many of them de-It may be stated in this connection, that the official career and ministry clared in unmistakable terms, as is of the Savior began after the date of recorded in 2 Thessa, 2 chap, 7th y flis baptism, and the out-pouring of "For the mystery of the iniquity doth the Holy Spirit apon Him immediately afready work;" or in other words the afterwards; He slowly githered around premonitions of apostacy were be-Him faithful followers, who believed in His Divinity an ! ministry, and even-

tually He chose TWELVE APOSTLES,

against the church, commencing with the infamous act of Nero, and organized His Church with every necessary functionary to carry on the work of evangelization upon the earth, THE MONSTER IN HUMAN FORM,

and the unideation of His disciples; having become stained with every vice carefully teaching the aposties and and atrocity known to man, had arrived iders and other officers, the principles at a point of diabolism, which was of the Gospel; viz : faith, repentance, superinduced by the animus that his bands authoritatively for the gift of the Holy Ghost. He also taught them that certainty of a hereafter, eter-instigated by the resident Jews against aal judgment, and the resurrection the Christians, in and around Rome, he from the dead. In short He taught conceived the idea of setting the great them the Gospei in its fuiness, and city on fire, and at once spread the

Those who were of the lowest rank against God.

of the people, escaped the best; their obscurity in some measure, screened them from the fury of persecution. stripped of that beautiful organization The learned and eloquent, the doctors that its Founder give it before His and ministers, and chiefly the rich for departure; confronted with heresy the confi-cation of whose fortunes the rapacious magistrates were perpetually gaping, were the persons most exposed to the dangers of the times." posed to all the

### TERRORS OF PERSECUTION,

but there were other agencies at work sapping its life and vitality, found in the invasions that felse teachers made in the ranks of its members, notwithstanding the expostulations of the apostles and the elders. It is true that against the Christians, and complained as the members of the church were to the emperor of their grossness. found adhering to false doctrine they were dealt with according to the disthe early Sints; but, as will be shown cipline of the church, and where found hereafter, even that toleration which obstinate were excommunicated, and so long as the apostles and elders were the various sects and schools ceased permitted to five, the church was kept and their refusal to worship the images existed in the government and among rid of faithless and unworthy members. of the Cæsars. During this century Shortly after the martyrdom of the thousands of the early Salats were to exist, when it was found that the teachings of the Christians came di-Apostles Peter and Paul, the notorious sacrificed rectly in contact with the permicious Nero died by his own hand, and others practices of Jew, Gentile and Pagan. It will be remembered that those who

succeeded him, who bore no love to the unoffending Christian. Violence became proselytes to the Christian faith, formerly belonged to the various against the latter was a daily occur-rence. The other apostles were, with the exception of Joha the Revelator, soon put to death in various parts of the empire.

For ready reference we annex the following form of the death and maryrdom of all the apostles: Peter prucified with his head down-

those who had became converted ward at Rome about the year 66. James beheaded at Jerusalem by order of Herod about the year 44. Mark was dragged to death in the

streets of Alexandria. Luke was hanged on an olive tree in

Greece about the year 90. consequence of the opposition raised

death with a pillard. Pallip was scourged and crucified about the year 52

Andrew was bound to a cross and that they previously had given promise preached till he died. to abandon. And thus we read of

East Indies. Jude was shot to death with an ar-

row about the year 72. Bartholomew was flayed alive. In consequence of the wide-spread

Simon was crucified in Persia about the year 74. Mathew was slain with a halbere

in Madabas about the year 60. Barnabas was stoned by the Jews

about the year 73. Paul was beheaded by Nero in Rome n the year 66.

John the Revelator it is said was cast into a cauldron of boiling oil, but escaped unhurt, and was afterwards ban- their dioscese and seek to bend them ished to the Isle of Patmos, in the to their ideas and opinions respecting Eigean Sea by the Emperor Domitian, in the year 96. This Emperor in-

augurated the two persecutions in 93. IN THE INTERIM

between the death of Peter and the banishment of John elapsed 30 years, during which many innovations were nade by the various forces at work to detoriate the purity and correctness

of the doctrines of the Gospel. Prominent among them was the sect of Gaoslics who of all others were more formidable than any for evil in the insinuations of their false and erroneous doctrine. From among the plelates co-transling them to imitate many things mentioned by historians the example of the western Christians oncerning this sect I quote the folowing from Chap. 3 Mosheim Ecc. the festival of Easter. The Asiatics

Him as the Son of the Supreme God, entertained unworthy ideas of Ilis "They denied His deity, looking upon Him as the mere son of God, and consequently inferior to the Father, and they rejected His humanity upon the supposition that everything concrete intrinsically evil. Hence the greatest

away to execution, unless they pre- upon them the judgments and cal- Thebais for 90 years, more like a savaway to execution, unless they pre-vented punishment by apostacy; under another, we see inhuman magistrates endeavoring to compet them by all sorts oftortures, to renounce their re-ligious profession." • • • WThose who were of the lowest rank that churches and places of worship The dawn of the second century

witnessed a church without apostles,

was a form of godliness there was a conspicuous lick of the power thereof. among its members and the prey of the fierce prejudice and persecution of the Roman power. In the year 104 the third persecution began under Trajan, says: "No persons were admitted to step furthen, and issued an edict cs- claimed to possess great sanctity, and Not only was the infant church ex-bosed to all the infant church exterminated. The processes of the the meuacing and formidable shouts the menacing and formidable shouts and declamation of the exorcist, they had been delivered from the dominion sintegration of the church during

this century were accelerated by the persecutions set on foot under Adrian of the prince of darkness and consein the year 119, as also by Severus in crated to the service of God. The oriin of this superstitious ceremony may the year 197, which were instigated by the philosophers, priests and Jews be easily traced, when we consider the who incessantly raised false reports prevailing opinions of the times." The Christian doctors applied themselves to the study of letters and phil-These rulers being goaded on by these parties, often against their will, issued edicts of slaughter against the Chrislans, whose only and sole offense was that of belief in the Lord Jesus Christ of the Cæsars. During this century

UPON THE BLOODY SANDS

of the amphitheatre at Rome at the

ligion and promising to attach them- would be with them to the end. elves to the Pagan views and rites of cepted, preferring to end their lives in beginning, which was due to the fact faithfulness and fidelity to the Al- that they had mighty in martyrdom.

The annals of this century describe

many innovations upon the ordinances those things which the Savior had James the lesser was thrown from a and doctrines of the Gospel. The taught them; and consequently they pinnacle of the Temple and beaten to amalgamation of Pagan and Jewish were left to be driven about by every dogmas perverted the simple and genuine methods of worship established by the Savior, and propagated by the Apostles. Schism after schism had arisen among many of the dioceses Thomas was run through with a of the church, doctrinal contro-lance on the coast of Coramahail in the versies were frequent, requiring the adjudication of the synods and presbyters of bishops, which were, not at all times successful in their deliberations. Disputations often arose regarding the and ceremonies into the Christian Church, which was sought to be effected, to bring it more into con-formity with pagan and Jewish rituals which were more calculated to appeal to, and gratify the external senses than the spiritual.

Occasionally bishops would arrogate latter becoming absorbed by the to themselves authority over others of

the observances of CERTAIN FESTIVALS

which had been interpoisted into some of the churches, as the following quotation from Mosheim 11th section, 4th chapter, 2d century, will snow: "Victor, Bishop of Rome, endeavored to force the Asiatic Christians by the pretended autoprity of his laws and lecrees, to follow the rules which were observed by the western churches in this utter confusion of ideas." The his point. Accordingly, after baving taken torians of those times were hardly the advice of some foreign bishop, he competent to judge of the true spirit wrote an imperious letter to the Asiatic and form of Christianity established plelates coumanding them to imitate by Jesus, for the reason that

that the doctrines which He had taught the movel be accompanied by a pow-er that would attest their truth and divinity. The vituperation with which spirit and resolution, that they would Christianity of both periods. The fun-by no means depart in this manner damental principle of Christianity be-from the custom handed down ing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, it is to them by their ancestors. Upon this fair to presume was generally accept the thunders of excommunication ed by members of the Church, while a began to roar. Victor, exasperated vast number of the rites and ceremo by the resolute answers of the Asiatic, nies observed by them could not be bishops, broke communion with them, pronounced them unworthy of the name of his prethren, and excluded them from all fellowship with the caurch of Rome. This excommunica-tion, indeed, extended no further; nor could it cut off the Asiatic bishops from communion with the other and spirit that were originally intended

of Milan, and from that time persecu- During this century the most foolish began to be apparent. Although the

that churches and places of worship were EMBELLISHED WITH INAGES and other of naments, and while there In previous years he had exercised a similar homage to these o hets the widest toleration towards Corns- which they deemed sacred. Monastic Respecting the rites observed in the tians, but had not wholly set aside orders were established, and monks administration of baptism Mosneim Paganism. In the year 321, he went a began the sale of all kinds of relics,

THE LORD'S DAY

THE LORD'S DAY as a day of abstinence from labor. On the death of Lincinim the colle-gian emperor, he issued another, cx-in the same of religion. Respecting the cordesistical order of the Courch, it will be proper to re-mark that Constantine resayed to horting all his subjects to forsake Pa- regulate it, and introduced many new ganism and worship Christ alone, and from that time he connected himself in Constantinople, and placed opon its wholly with Christianity, and cotem-incumbent all the honors, flahts, privpotary with these events another hereosophy, and abandoned frequenced, sy sprang up which added further to paths and wandered in the speculative wilds of fancy. They endeavored to bring the doctrines of celestial wisdom into a degree of subjection to the pre-cents of their science of a subjection to the pre-stood in a few words: 'It is that the cepts of their vain philosophy. In short Second Person in the Holy Trinity is

"SUCH AN ASSEMBLY,"

dom in the inculcation of that which or in any true sense, because he is not they termed Caristianity, than in the cternal, and there was therefore a time stantinole, namely, those of Rome, Au-dictation of the Holy Spirit; which when he did not exist." stantinole, namely, those of Rome, Au-toch and Alexandria. These held a degree of pre-eminence over the rest It appears upon the cessation of per-

power and efficacy of their priesthood, of the amphitheatre at Rome at the great feasts held there, and torn to pieces by wild beasts for the amuse-ment of the populace of that once barbarous city. The Saints were frequently given feast in the transformed to be the security of the great feast in the transformed to be the security of the se

The Saints were frequently given the or things was meritable, when we have between freedom and imprisonment. Savior to His Apostles, that if they (the between freedom and imprisonment, postles and His Saints) observed all status of the Savior, and not feeling by recanting and renouncing their rereconcile these differences, decided on Christianity did not bear the same assembling an lumense Council o the Romans, which few indeed ac- fruits at this period of time as in the Bishops from every par of the world and engrusted to them the final decis ion of the question. This assembly met in the year 325 at Nice, not fai

### NOT OBSERVED

from the Imperial residence, and the new city which Constantine was then taught them; and consequently they building on the opposite shore of the Bosphorus, and which still retains his wind of doctrine. name. At this council there assembled The dawn of the fourth century 318 bishops who had traveled from all witnessed the Christian Church in a parts of the world at the public expeculiar condition. It had passed pensethrough many vicissitudes; it had been deprived of its apostles by an early martyrdom, and the cruel hand

of the Saints. Worst of all the degenerating influence of heresy had beome interwoven in the very woof of respect of the age, and one which may introduction of pagan and Jewish rites the church. The changes in the 18108 and ordinances of the Gospel had been who composed it were men of mature gradual and insidious. The pagan years, many of them long past the meso intertwined with the views and faith of Christians at this time, that it may be truly stated that Christianity had become paganized instead of the

> former. It appears, however, that what re mained of Christianity at this period was intolerable to unbelievers in

Christ, and that the very name, of hristian was obnoxious to the Pagan

ously addressed themselves to Diocle

and Jewish ear. One historian informs us that "The fundamental principles of the Christian doctrine were pre-served hitherto incorrupt and entire in guidance was with them to lead them o a right decision." most churches, though it must be con-fessed that they were often explained and defended in a manner that discov-Their deliberations resulted in what verse to Arlanism, as follows: ered the greatest ignorance, and an 'There is 'one Lord Jesus Christ. and therefore there is no pretense for hose who have said, ho, here is

THE LIGHT OF THOSE TIMES with respect to the time of celebrating was not sufficient to enable the Chris-

by working upon the credulity of the masses, amassed wealth and influence

orders. He created a new Episcopate lleges and ornaments that were loved by the Roman Pontiff, in order to raise up a rival in the new city, against the See of Rome, and to give prestige to the undertaking of making another capital of the empire.

they relied more upon their own wis- not God in the same sense as the First, to that of the one established at Coa-Three prelates had existed previous degree of pre-eminence over the rest of the Episcopal orders, and of these three, Rome was held first in rank. The Bishop of Rome surpassed all his brethren in the magnificence and splendor of the church over which he presided, in the riches of his revenues and possessions; in the number and variety of his ministers; in his credit with the people, and jo his sumptuous manner of living. These dazzling marks of human power,-these scem-ing proofs of true greatness and felici-

had such a mighty influence upon tue minds of the multitude, that the SEE OF ROME

ccanic in this century, a most seducog object of sacerdotal ambilion Great emulation had existed among the bishops for many years, for preeminance, over each other, the Bishop of Rome leading the way, gaining influence and power over all others, un-til at length, Boniface the Third, Bisb-

op of Rome, became the sole bishop, or pope of the church, in the year 606, at the instance of Phocas, the tyrant, writes J. H. Blunt, author of a work early martyrdom, and the cruci hand writes of the instance of Phocas, the tyraut, of persecution was red with the blood upon early Christianity, "when we come at the instance of Phocas, the tyraut, rationally to consider its composition, must have b en one to command the that the apostacy of the Church upon the eastern hemisphere became complete. command our respect also. Those

Cotemporary with the process of the apostacy of the Church upon the eastern hemisphere a similar result was ridian of life; they had been picked out reached upon the wes ern hemisphere of the best educated class among their in the apostacy and decay of the Church of Christ among the Nephites, fellow countrymen at home, as having the knowledge, judgment, and good brought about by a train of circum-stances, described in the Book of ness which fitted them for the office of pishop. Many of them had suffered Mormon. It seems as if by an inevitgrievously for their religion, showing able fatality, coupled with a striking by their maimed bodies, as they sat in coincidence in both cases, that as the the council, how real those sufferings ife of these churches went out, so did had been. They now met togetaer unthe life and existence of two great der Imperial command, to decide on nations, nearly simultaneously go out, an important public question, and must have felt the responsibility of as witnessed in the dissolution of the their office. They believed that God's once mighty empire of Rome: whose record is stained by deeds of unparalled atrocity, and the extinction of the Nephite nation, of America, three fourths of a century previous, brought s termed the Nicene Creed, which was about by

#### INTERNECINE WAR,

superinduced by a departure from the Christ, or, Lo there, since He departed laws of God.

from the world. "He is the only begotten Son of dence of the certainty of the retribu-God,' and therefore Son of God in a God,' and therefore son of God in a and people who fight against Him shall surely be brought to naught. The

sup

"Begotten of His Father before all spectacle now depicted in the apostacy the worlds,' and therefore not coming of these Churches, is presented to the into existence, as the Gnostics had candid and reflecting mind How sad and foriorn must have been th after the world was created tion of our race who, shut out from "He is 'God,' coming 'of God, Light, the voice of prophets, and deprived of true religion, were deft to wander in oming of Light, 'very God' coming o 'very God,' and consequently, not in theory or imagination, but in actual doubt and darkness, until the fulness reality God, as the Father by Whom of the Gentiles came in, an' the dis-He is begotten is God, as truly Divine pensation of the fulness of times brought back the Gospel, long lost to as the Father. "He is 'begotten not made,' no mankind. created being, but God, through a WANTED-A man to take an office

coming more and more apparent in many of the churches. When these things are taken into account in con-

in the Gorden of Eden, and put under a commandment not to cat of a certain tree in the garden. Upon the violation of that commandment certain results were to follow, along which was an atienation from the presence of God. ustil a perfect reparation could be made, sufficient to satisfy divine justice. Adam having become a fallen eing, was unable to make amends for his transgression. It then became necessary that a Savior be furnished for him, who was competent to make a complete atonement for the law that he had transgressed. Jesus, the Only Begotten of the Eather, was the per son who took upon Himself the task. Hence in view of the .

### PROMISE OF ATONEMENT

that was to be effected in the meridian of time, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, was the only plan of sulvation given to mankind in the beginning. Many received it, believing in all good faith Last the redemption of man would be wrought out by Jesus, as promised by the Father. Thus the law of God embraced in the Gospel, with its orainances, gifts and blessings, based upon the atonement, in the then future, was as effloacious to the creature as it could possibly be alter the fact of its accom-

For various reasons that cannot be mentioned here, although sufficient of themselves, the Gospel was not permitted to remain among mankind congift of tinnously from Adam to Christ. thereof, the gift of healing, etc. Tarongnent the Mosaic dispensation In summarizing the Gospel of waich lasted nearly 1,500 years, the hav given to the Israelites was in a thing necessary to the salvation of the with it the typification of the atone. ment that was promised by the Fatner througa Jesus Christ. The Jews had through Jesus Christ. The Jews had sadly departed from the spirit and genius of the Mosaic law in its collect-His Church, the religion of the Lord ive sense, as well as in the essence with truth, that the daily sacrifice was that were authorized by Him to adoffered in token of the great sacrifice minister the ordinances of the Gospel, expected, the Jews had lost sight of through which their sins would be ferthe character of the Redeemer, as por-trayed by all the prophets. They had such relations with the Father, as asals ) lost the power and spirit of their | sured them of their acceptance with pries thood, so much so that when the Him.

Shiloh Appeared among them they did not recog lize Him as the Son of God, nor the Redeemer of the world, but rejected time , nd put him to death. When the Savior appeared among men,

A PECULIAR CONDITION

of the political and religious world - axisted, a knowledge of which, to some extent, is necessary, in order to comprehend the obstacles that stood apostles and elder in the way, and the diff ulties that had the other parts of the world which to be encountered by the Savior in the introduction of the Gospel. The then political world, being under the juris-diction of the Roman power, whose ressive rule and conquest had par-

Indeed, the early saints were every-

argely of that narsh element preaching of the Gospel at Pentecost arganized it, that throughout in Jerusaiem, it may be said that the ag largely of that narsh element taken wein, the feeling of brother- spirit of persecution against the saints which s. aigh extinguished from began to assume a virulence that bore Its vast do. bood was we.

society. The y. upon the necks of WY HAD ions and kingdoms laid heavily upon then. unrest permeated this vas. prevailing desire more or less in the various provinces to thru tinual survellance of the Roman ar-mies to keep the conquered in subor- vis. ed as a peaceful period in comparison, so much so that the Temple of St. ganization as . lames in Rome, was closed, as an evi- and practising t. dence that the Roman world was not Gospel, bearing the ... at war with any people, was due more ness, accompanied wi. to the fact that there were no other and graces that ever nationf of easy approach to make war Church of Christ upon the e. upon. In no other province more therefore beyond a doubt, atte. than in the land of Palestine, did a feeling of uneasiness exist to extricate uncontroverted, that Christianity w.

people from Nero, which was turned arist's doctrines were received by the with viadictive vengeance, against the masses, resulted in His crucifixion and burial. But on the third day He rose again, as He had declared He would would.

crime, fire was the punishment. The The disaster that befor His followers result was the burning of many souls "They denied His nay well be imagined when they put whose tarred and pitched clothing. Him to death; and many doubtless prepared by the officials, lighted up the felt that they had embraced a system public gardens of Rome to the amusethat expired at the death of its foun-der. But not so; for Christ, after His debased populace of Rome. This was resurrection, appeared to His immedi- the first of ten systematic persecutions and corporeal is, itself, essentially and ate friends and His apostles, and reinaugurated by this vile government, vived and refreshed them, and re-afnote of which will be made in their part of firmed all He had previously taught proper order as we proceed. them. He tarried with them forty days It is but natural to suppose that a denied that Christ was clothed with a during which He imparted precious information to them respecting the

information to them respecting the work to be undertaken after His de-parture. As is written of Him in Eps. 4th chap. 8-11: He had led captivity captive and gave glits to men. To some Heigsve to be apostles, to some to be prophets, evangelists (seventies and elders), pastors, priests, teachers and deacons, for the work of the min-istry, and that all might be brought to a UNITY OF THE FAITH. Thus we have a happy elucidation of

the organized Church of Christ as set of Rome,

up by Christ himself, and when on the of his ascension, He commanded

AS BEING DISLOYAL, His apostles to go to all the world and preach His Gospel, the signs thereof would follow the believer, namely, the tongues, the interpretation In summarizing the Gospel of Christ

we discover that it contained everymeasure symbolical, carrying creature. What a sublime reflection, early Saints, and harrass and annoy somewhat to the plausibility of their that in the midst of such perversity as them in various ways, with the hope views, and ou this account their efforts existed previous to and during the to depiete their ranks.

ive sense, as well as in the essence Jesus Christ, that all would seek after History: \* \* "The Jews trine into the eaureh, was aided by thereof; for while it can be stated Him could find upon the earth, men who lived out of Palestine, in the the corrupt doctrine of the Nicolaitans Roman provinces, did not yield to of which mention is made in Revela-those of Jerusalem in point of cruelty tions.

The transformation brought about upon those who received the Gospel-the parity and plety of their lives afterwards contrasted so markedly with

the wide-spread perversity every where around them -- the influence and exam-ple of the Christian was a standing rebuke to the wicked and evil doer, Church by sending messages to exhort which aroused the ire and displeasure them to avoid all intercourse with the Christians These perfidious accu-

The preaching of the Gospel by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem and sations had the intended effect, and the rage of the Jews against the Christians was conveyed from father to

son, from age to age; so that the Church of Christ had, in no period, OPPOSITION AND HOSTILITY. nore bitter and desperate enemies

where evil spoken of. Even after the preaching of the Gospel at Pentecost sent."

THE ROMANS that was imposed fruit in after time which marked that who were proublesome to no nation on with the doctrines of Christ, the opia-tice conquered na-era as one of the bloodiest in the an-account of its religion, and who suf-ions, customs and traditions of the conquered na-with the source of the bloodiest in the an-mais of time. The results of the labors is faeling of the apostles were the raising up of the apostles were the apostles were the raising up of the apostles were the apostles were the raising up of the apostles were the raising up of the apostles were the raising up of the apostles were the apostles were the apostles the apostles were the apostles were the apostles the apostles were the apostles were the apostles the

while by

### THE GNOSTICS

persecution so violent as the one just real body, or that he suffered really for mentioned, resulting in the martyr- the sake of mankind, the pains and sorwith.

the magistrates, and to the government The error, embodied in the Gentile destrine are the more apparent when we reflect, that to doubt the divinity

of the mission of our Savior is to disand attached to one Jesus whom rupt the whole plan of salvation, and Pilate had punished capitally. Such set aside the great economy of the infamous instituations gave rise to many crueities, and the popular clamor incited the secular area of the Among the body of Gentiles were to

government in various parts of the be found many philosophers whose empire, to punish and marder the erudition and respectability, added

to distort the plain principles of the The following will amplify the situa- Gospel were in some instances suction to which we refer, taken from the cessful. The end and operations of bth chap, of Book one Moshelm's Ecc. this sect being to introduce false doc-History: "The Jews trine into the equich, was aided by

to the innocent disciples of Christ. We In the 29th chapter of Euseblus' learn from the Acts of the Apostles, and other records of upquestion-concerning this heresy: "Nicolaus able authority, that they spared the one of the deacons who with Stephen laborer, but zeafously selzed every were appointed by the Apostles to occasion of animating the magistrate minister to the poor, having a beautiagainst the Christians, and instigating ful wife, and being reproached after "The High Priest of the nation, and the Jews who dwelt in Palestine, were instrumental in exciting the rage of the foreign Jews arainst the infant Church by sending messages to orbit." the multitude to demand their de- the ascension of our Lord, with jeal-

with that expression of his, that everyone ought to abuse his own flesh. And thus these that adopted his heresy following both this example and ex

pression literally, rushed headlong in-to fornication without shame. Among those who took an active part in the dissemination of false doctrine are mentioned by the apostle and Mosheim asl Hymenaes, Alexander, Philetus, Hermogénes, Demas, Diotrephes, Si-

mon Magus and his disciple Menander. While others were studious to blend

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churches whose bishops were far from and enjoyed. The powers of darkness, approving the conduct of Victor." whose aim was the utter extinction of The words of the Prophet Isaiah, 24th chapter, 5th verse, were verified before the close of this century, in the changing of the ordinances, insomuch that baptism was administered to in-be or the chapter of the ordinances insomuch that baptism was administered to in-bag of the ordinances of the remaining forms of Christianity fants by sprinkling, and sponsors and the prospects of its spread were introduced in connection there- throughout the empire, the signs of throughout the empire, the signs of which pecame daily more apparent. Under these apprehensions of the downfall of their craft, they assidu-

Endless and nonsensical CONTROVERSIES

has arisen respecting the divinity and identity of the person of the tian, the chief the three emperors, tengage in a persecution against the Christians. Accordingly, in the year Savior, resulting in the rise of various sects known as the Nazarenes, Ebion-303, the emperor issued anledict to pull ites, and others whose contentions down the churches of the Coristians and errors in point of doctrine and disto burn all their books and, writings and to take from them all their civil rights and immunities, and render cipline, abgmented the causes that led The opening of the third century hem incapable of any honors or civil presented to the struggling Christians

promotion It is said by Moshiem, "that many difficulties imposed by the passage of laws inimical to their interests. The Christians, and among them several Emperor Severus, in the year 203, made bishops and presbyters, seeing the a law prohibiting the subjects of his consequent empire from changing the religion of up all the consequences of this refusal, delivered

his ancestors for the Christian and **RELIGIOUS BOOKS** 

Jewish faith. From Mosheim we leasn that this law in its effects was most disastrous for the Christians. It in their possession in order to save them-duced malicious magistrates to perand other sacred things that were in in accepting Christianity, and in call duced malicious magistrates to per-secute unto death the poorer sort emperor issued a new edict ordering tian world as the circumstance that among the Christians that the richer might be intimidated to purchase am-nesty and thereby become exempt long after this inhuman violence a established it on a sure foundation. It from similar persecutions. third edict was issued, ordering all acting the part of an Elias, or in other The doctrines of the Caurch were sorts of torments to be employed, and undergoing a gradual change. The the most fiendish punishments inventdoctrines of Plato were largely in-gr fted among the churches, which renounce their faith by sacrificing to Christian world for calling a halt in tended to impoverish the purity of the the heathen Gods, in the hope that if the persecutions of the Christians, it Christian faith and doctrine. Schism the leaders of the Christians could be cannot be claimed that he added any after schism occurred among the induced to abandon their religion, the thing, or brought back the power prominent bishops and writers of the Church, resulting in increasing divi-sions and confusion. In the year 235 the sixth persecution under Maximus raged, and the fury of the neather was let loose upon the Christians, which terminated at the death of the rominent bishops and writers of the

which te-minated at the death of the one of the co-emperors, and other in-veterate enemies of the Christian emperor after a reign of three years. In the year 249 cause. By this edict the magistrates were authorized to force all Christians, THE SEVENTH PERSECUTION

the most severe of any that had been waged up to that time. The tortures to which the early Saints were sub-jected are enough to harrow the souls: In order that the reader may form a some had their limbs broken; some more distinct idea of the trials and crimes became so revolting that he were cast from upper windows to the torures of the Christians of that perground; others were placed upon the iod, I con rack and stretched to death; old and follows: od, I copy from an eminent author as follows: "The trial of a Christian

were seated on the subsilla, one of the

duumvirs presiding, in his white robes Others were beheaded, some were bordered with purple; his lictor burned to death, others were lacerated with iron scrapers; and hundreds were torn to pieces with wild beasts, upon his first entrance, were the usual in-his own relations, to build up or revithe arenas; while hundreds that struments of torture. There were the wandered about in deserts and heavy yoke for the neck, of iron or of mountains perished by hunger and wood, similar to what in China is thirst, frost and disease, robbers and called the canga; the fetters; the thirst, frost and disease, robbers and wild a simals. Such was the price the early Saints paid for their religion, which was exacted and sasctioned by law. Eusebius informs us that after the

Eusebius informs us that after the in them; the whips and thongs, cutting therefore welcome to all the consolacessation of the bloody persecution with iron or bruising with lead; the tion that they may derive from the acts the churches throughout the east and heavy clubs; the hook for digging into of Constantine by the way of giving

"Being of one substance with the Father, "like unto Him in every perfecand represent a manufacturer; \$50 per per week ; small capital required. Ad tion of his Being.' By whom all things dress, with stamp, Manufacterer, Box 0, West Acton, Mass. "Who for us men and for our salva-

ion, came down from heaven. "And was incarnate; by the Hol Ghost, of the Virgin Mary, and was Short Hand and Type Writing

made man. "And was crucified," etc., etc. S!TUATION A little reflection will show that th Nicene Creed is about as absurd as the

were made.

Arian doct.ine. The Nicene Creed while, laboring to say both young men and ladies much better colaries than most commercial positions, and the demand is greater. Students can be fitted for office short-hand positions establish the identity of the Savior,

distorts its efforts, by declaring that he was of "one substance with the Father." Such a proposition, being IN" THREE MONTHS' TIME by Haven's system. No previous knowledge of either art required. Colleges open all the y-ar. Stadents can enter any time, all rulion being individual. Superior facilities for procuring situations, for which aid we make no charge. College pamphlots with full set self leaching lessons in either art sent to any address for 10 cts.; both arts, 20 cts. No stamps accepted. Address either antenable, shows the light that reflected itself upon the minds of this famous council to be sadly deficient, when compared with the saying found in Hebrew i: 3, that Christ was the express image of the person of God. This idea is strengthened by the declaration of the Father when the Holy Ghost de-scended upon Christ, that: "This is ots. No stamps accepted. Address either

of Haven's Colleges: New York, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati, ). San Francisco, Osi. sup my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased," which saying positively es-tablished the identity of the Son as apart from the Father.

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private life was tainted with crimes

of the bad odor in which he was held

and began the building of another

metropolis and named it Constanti

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nople in honor of himself.

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of the deepest dye. While living in Rome ke murdered his son Crispus, his **REMOVAL!** nephew Licinius, and suffocated his wife Fausta in a steam bath. He had been married to her twenty years, and she was the mother of three sons. His MRS. DR. E. B. FERGUSON

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where she will be pleased to have ber to Christianity, and was baptized on friends and all who may need her Pro his deathbed: In view of these things how inconsistent it appears to imagine fessional Services call upon her.

Ar Telephone 51. PIONEER vify His church, or take any cognizance of the acts of such a man whom He never had appointed to act as His vice PATENT ROLLER MILL GO. Ill: No. 58 North Temple Strees East. Office: 21 South Temple Street, West. Mill: of Constantine by the way of giving Christianity an impetus that sent it BRANDS: BIGH PATENT.

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feeble women had their jaws beaten, prisoner brought before a Roman and their teeth broken out. One judge was somewhat after the followidge was somewhat after the follow-

in an idelatrous temple was tied by her fest and dragged through the THE MAGISTRATES

rrespective of rank, or sex to sacrifice under Decimus, began and is said to be to the heathen gods, and were ordered

woman who refused to worship an idol ing manner;

streets, and dashed against the mill-

stones, and afterwards stoned to death.

Jews imposed by that power, that in the far fereils desire-and hope for de-liverance, they had/newsond literia and placet, as may be informed by the and placet hem in spontion to volcas, a popule, they had long been accur-the farmed in the state of manking the second and state the could be set were the subpolicies at the source of the Jews were disapted in spectrue of the Son of God, wao came among that thus at the very threshold of His work. He found an insuperable barrier to the hearts of His -ountry-men. The religions world, to say the least, was in no better condition. The Jews, who were the conjugate at in which it was actually and genius of the faith of their stars, and genius of the Church, left in the curve of the against the Christians are particularly and genius of the Church, left in the curve of the against the Christians are particularly and genius of the Church, left in the curve of the against the Christians are particularly and genius of the Church, left in the curve of the against the Christians are particularly and genius of the charse are against the Christians are particularly and genius of the faith of their stars and final overthrow of the Church, left in the curve of the against the Christians are particularly and corrective, which were employed and corrective, which were amployed and in the genius of the christians are particularly and genius of the christians of the christians are particularly and genius of the christians are particularly and genius of the christians are particularly and corrective, which were and point the s

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