in the persecution. But as far as the book of Acts is concerned, the Roman Empire is an establishee of law and wrest order, not the enemy of the church.

Now that is all related to number 1, the world to which Christianity came, the political organization of the Roman Empire. That was a very importat factor in the fullness of time. There were many per od before that time when if Christ had been born, news about him would have had a difficult time travelling from Judea, because youvhad a kingdom there, and you have another and another, and you a had kingdom after km kingdom, with strong armies on their borders, and constant wars between them, and it was very difficult for anyone to pass from one kingdom to another. And if one did pass and go into another, he was looked on with suspicion, and it would have been very difficult for him to get in touch. It had been that wasy time after time in hist. in the world, not only beef before the Roman Empire, but also at various times since then, **xxx* in many places in the world. But here we have a situation, when in the fullness of time, a situation had been established by the Roman empire, a attationxxxitantionx situation which made it possible for Christinaity to spread over a wide area without thex it tund immediately meeting barriers, which would make it very difficult for the messge to be spread.

We might make a point A under that, we might say that travel was greatly simplified. The Roman Empire was here, and it would speed over a very large area. Far more than had ever had to rule over before. So that there was peace under this one powerxmadmaxximims over this very large area. Now the Romans had been at war most of the time before this time, but during the life f of Christ there was established the first long period of peace. Under the emperor Augustus there was established for many years a mix situation that was peaceful, and there was no fighting except on the outskirts of the empire. And often there was not very much there. There was a wide area in which there was no war. And it was possible for travel extensively through that wide area. But here there was peace through this great area, and secondly, as to travel through the Roman Empire being simplified, (1) peace, (2) the lack