

prosperity, underneath there was a solid floor of firm Christian principles and true belief which was coming to the front as they faced the difficulties that ~~Julian~~ Julian put upon them.

Well, now, in relation to Arianism, the reign of ~~Julian~~ Julian had a very unexpected effect. Julian became emperor, and he wanted to do everything he could to hurt the church. ~~Well~~ Well, the church was quite biased when he became emperor, there wasn't much in the way of controversy, because the nineteen bishops had all been exiled. And Constantius had force Arian statements upon the church pretty throughly, especially in the eastern ~~section~~ section, and the Arian bishops were directing things in their ~~areas~~ areas. And Julian had a very clever idea. He said, these men who hold ~~a~~ particular type of Christian view, the ones that are in exile, I will bring them all back. And then he said all this controversy will start, and the church will be torn in two, and that is one of the best ways of hurting the church. So Julian ordered to have all bishops who had been exiled by Constantius to be allowed to return/ And Athanacious came back to Egypt, to Alexandrai, and the others came to other places, but to Julian's consternation, the people celebrated the coming of these bishops back to their places with great ~~happiness~~ happiness and joy and they received them. And they began to preach the gospel with such power and the people gathered around them with such joy and happiness that actually the immediate effect was a step forward for ~~Christianity~~ Christianity instead of the beginning of difficulties and dissensions and controversies.

And Julian decided that he had made a mistake, and so within a year he ordered Athanacious sent off into exile again. (laughter) But the effect, here, of Julian's reign actually helped the orthodox cause, absolutely opposite to the intention which he had had. ~~By~~ By the end of his reign all the ~~Christians~~ Christians were in considerable difficulty but the people were finding that, he didn't send them all back into exile, and the men who had suffered for their faith, and who had been exiled by Constantius, they were the ones who the people were more inclined to follow to lead them