

three year period which is short but which is vital, because it represents what somebody said, that Julian was a wicked and vicious emperor. Well, I think most people ~~xxx~~ thought that he was a very good man. And a man who, as far as viciousness is concerned, had far less of it than did Constantius who preceded him, and perhaps far less ~~xxxx~~ even than Theodosius who massacred 7,000 people. When the people of Thessalonica rose against Theod., 7,000 of them were massacred, and when the people of Antioch ridiculed Julian, he wrote some poems ridiculing them in return. (laughter) I think that if he had ~~xxxx~~ continued to reign, it is possible that his ~~xxx~~ indignation at the fact that ~~xxxxxx~~ people didn't understand him, and of course he was utterly wrong in his views, might have led him to cruelty. But as it was, there were isolated incidents of actual cruelty in his reign, but there was nothing compared with the cruelty which Constantius showed. But the very vital thing about Julian ~~xxxxxxx~~ isn't that he was a bad man trying to fight Christianity, but it is that he was a man who upheld ideals of ethics, and of philosophic reasoning, which were far superior to what you would actually find in Constantius and in many of the nominal Christians, but who advanced them in the interest of paganism. And who consequently presented paganism at its very best. And he presented paganism, I shouldn't say its very best, but better than it was, because Julian actually had a lot of Christian ideals in his head. And he hated the Christian people, and he tried to imagine these ideals came from paganism. But the pagans did not back him up in this, and it is a very interesting period, this period of Julian. But it is a brief period. Most of you had Julian very well in mind.

It was a ~~xxxx~~ brief period, but an important one, and in the progress of God, it was a very fine thing that it came. That the church didn't simply go over with Constantine into control of the empire, and that was the end, ~~xxxx~~ that paganism had a chance to have a really fine man, a fine character and great ability, attempting to present it, and that the opportunity was given for the ~~xxxx~~ world to see the true situation, as regarding paganism. The difference between paganism and Christianity. It was in the providence of God a very excellent thing that Julian reigned, and the whole Christian world is much better