

of his deeds are so important today, at very many points.

~~What~~ Whatever you think of Jerome as a man, whatever you think of ~~his~~ his character, I personally find it impossible to tremendously admire his industry and ability. There have been those who have idolized him as a great ~~Saint~~ saint and there have been those who have detested him. And I think both attitudes are extreme. I think the balance is good rather than bad, undoubtedly. But he has very serious flaws in his character. But he was a very great man and a tremendous influence. He is the greatest scholar of the ancient Christian world. Even a greater scholar than Origen. But he is a scholar in the sense of one who is a very industrious student whose mind covers a tremendous range, who has a great deal of material and who handles it in general very excellently. But he is not a thinker, such as Augustine, who had considerable scholarship but far ~~less~~ less than Jerome's, he penetrated more deeply into his material and he saw the interrelationships between things much more vitally and clearly than Jerome did. Anything that Jerome wrote about he has interesting things to ~~say~~ say and sidelights and observations that are well worth attention.

But he does not, perhaps one reason was that he was so busy, so interested in so many things, that he does not relate them as fully and as clearly as Augustine does. And another thing, with all his great duration of the monastic life and his great praise of asceticism, he was a man in whom pride of scholarship and ~~pride~~ pride of intellectual ability was very very great. And his greatest failings come from this feature, which was the downfall of more Christians ~~than~~ than anything else. Pride. (end of record)

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And so we take up, then, G St. Jerome. And we want to note something of the course of Jerome's life and something of his character.
/ It is unfortunate, I think, that so few Christians actually know very much about the life of either Jerome or Augustine. They know a little about Augustine, but they know practically nothing about Jerome. That is most of our protestant Christians. But they are very great and powerful forces in the ancient world, and that influence has continued through the years. Cannon Farrar, the English writer, says of them, that very unfortunately the succeeding ages took the worst feature of both men and left their best ~~features~~ features