

12/3/62

question - Homousian - the same being, essence. That is the word to which the Arians took bitter objection but all but five of the members of the council signed the creed. The rest were banished.

question - yes, He interpreted it in such a way as to have a sort of one essence which was above the Father and from which they came so that it was something above them and seemed pretty closely related to Sabellianism. They are just various manifestations of God instead of God being actually three persons though one God.

We noticed the Homousian creed and at the end of the hour I was just about to speak about d. Other acts of the council. Now the council was called for one purpose and that was why it was called and why it did what it did and when that was done, it could be considered to be through. But there were a number of matters which it seemed vital to do something about and so at the end of the council a number of canons were passed dealing with various matters. We will only mention a few of them now. One of them was the matter of the date of Easter. The council decided that from henceforth the practice which was also being followed by the majority of the churches should be the established policy of the churches as a whole. That is the policy of not having Easter be on the 14th of the month Nisan following the Hebrew calendar but having it be a day in the Springtime which would be with relation to the moon which is the situation which we have today. This varies a bit but it relates to the moon and is in the Spring rather than to the Jewish calendar. So that policy was adopted ^{but} ~~and~~ there were people who for the next two or three years kept the policy of the observance of the 14th of Nisan following the Jewish calendar. Yet, the overwhelming mass of the churches adopted ~~this~~ policy which had become universal in the west and which now was accepted most everywhere in the East. The council determined that the pope of Alexandria should each year determine the date of Easter. I don't know whether they called him the ~~pope~~ ^{was} pope of Alexandria or the Bishop. The word pope as you know ~~is~~ applied to bishops a great deal at that time but it seems particularly right at this time to apply it to the bishop of Alexandria. Very often we find letters