



Series: God's Word Across Time
Lesson: Session 5—Constantine & The Arian
Heresy

Constantine

- Organizational developments in the Church
 - 'Clericalization of church life'
 - The Apostles' Creed
 - I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
 - I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by *the power* of the Holy Spirit.
and born of the Virgin Mary.
 - He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended *to the dead*.
 - On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 - He will come again to judge the *living* and the dead.
 - I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy and catholic Church
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

- After the Edict of Milan (313)
 - Acceptance and promotion of Christianity—good or bad???
 - Moving the capitol to Constantinople
 - The Arian Schism of 318

The Arian Heresy

- The legacy of Origen in the East
 - Alexandria emphasizes Jesus as eternal Son of God
 - Antioch sees Christ as somehow 'less than' the Father
 - Both influenced by Greek philosophy to take God's immutability (or impassibility) to the extreme (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8; Ja. 1:17)

- Arianism
 - Arius accuses his bishop, Alexander, of Sabellianism (modalism) and teaches that the Logos is a created being → how/why?
 - Salvation is at stake!
 - Does the union of divine with human save us? (Recapitulation theory)
 - Is Christ our moral example?

- **Jehovah's Witnesses=modern-day Arianism**
- How does the immutability of God help and hurt Arianism?