

For Justinian was a theologian in his own right and an avowed extirpator of heresy.” (*Ibid*)

In ‘The Message’ in January 1948 it said

“Perhaps no other truth in all of Holy Scripture comes to us so marked with the blood of controversy **as does the Bible doctrine of the Trinity**. History records that **ancient nations staked their very existence upon their conception of the Godhead**.” (*Robert H. Pierson, The Message, January 1948, ‘God the Father’*)

The author Robert Pierson then said

“Three kingdoms, the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths, were blotted from existence during the latter part of the fifth and the early part of the sixth centuries **because they refused to accept the orthodox teaching of the ruling church concerning this dogma**. Clergymen have been persecuted, exiled, and slain as the tide of favor regarding certain aspects of this subject ebbed and flowed in the early church.” (*Ibid*)

An interesting conversation

Interesting to note is a stenographer’s report of a sermon preached by E. W. Farnsworth. This was at a camp meeting in 1904.

He related that when he was in a Roman Catholic bookshop enquiring for a book that outlined a “Fair representation of the Catholic doctrines”, a bishop overheard his request and gave him a gift of a book.

Striking up a conversation, Farnsworth asked the bishop if he could relate some of the history of the Roman Catholic Church of the late 4th century. This was when the Arian controversy was still at its height.

The stenographers reported

“Then we [Farnsworth and the bishop] engaged in conversation. I asked him to tell me something of the history of the Roman church during the latter part of the third and fourth centuries after Christ, and **about the Aryan doctrine**.” (*W. E. Farnsworth, Australasian Signs of the Times, 20th June 1904, ‘History in symbols’ Stenographer’s report of a sermon preached at the Bathurst camp meeting’*)

Farnsworth continued

“He [the bishop] said "**the Aryans were heretics**; they were followers of Arius, who preached what was known as the Unitarian doctrine. This doctrine spread quickly