

Into the World: Polycarp, Justin, Origen

January 24, 2010

1. The Infant Church
 - 1.1. “Followers of the Way” or “Nazarenes”
 - 1.2. Chief Question: Were they simply a sect of Judaism or did they represent something wholly different and new?

2. First Great Christian Counsel: AD 49
 - 2.1. Two different accounts:
 - 2.11. Acts 15: Ecumenical and “official” account.

 - 2.12. Galatians 2

 - 2.13. Difference between the two accounts: For Luke it is an Ecclesiastical incident, properly and ecumenically resolved. For Paul it is a life and death struggle for the Truth. In this case, if Paul is vindicated, Christianity is born. If he is overruled, the teachings of Jesus become nothing more than hallmarks of a Jewish sect, doomed to be submerged and reabsorbed into the mainstream of Judaism.

3. Period of Persecution: Polycarp (c.65-155)

4. The Appologists: Justin (c. 100-165)

5. Origen (c. 185-254)

6. Reading next week: Shelley Ch. 5 & 6