

REAL FOOD SHORT TALKS:
GLORY TO THE KING OF AGES - LESSONS FROM CHURCH HISTORY

SESSION 1: THE COUNCIL OF NICEA: WHO IS JESUS?

Why study church history?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

The threat: Arius of Alexandria

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Col 1:15

"The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old..." **Prov 8:22**

"...the Father is greater than I." **John 14:28**



A passion for God's name?

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. **Deut 6:4**



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The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; ² for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. **Ps 24:1-2**



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A quick & decisive response

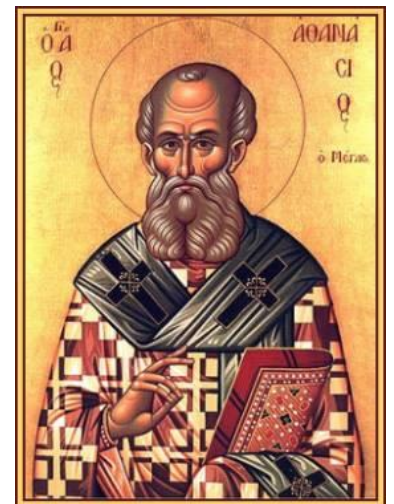
"My dear, until that moment in history, Jesus was viewed by His followers as a mortal prophet... a great and powerful man, but a man nevertheless. A mortal. Jesus' establishment as 'the Son of God' was officially proposed and voted on by the Council of Nicea... a relatively close vote at that." **Dan Brown, The Da Vinci Code**

Group leader	Jesus is...	...meaning
Alexander	Homoousios	Same substance
Arius	Heteroousios	Different substance
Eusebius	Homoiousios	Similar substance

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. **The Creed of Nicea**

The logic of salvation

What – or rather Who was it that was needed for such grace and such recall as we required? Who, save the Word of God Himself, Who also in the beginning had made all things out of nothing? His part it was, and His alone, both to bring again the corruptible to incorruption and to maintain for the Father His consistency of character with all. For He alone, being Word of the Father and above all, was in consequence both able to recreate all, and worthy to suffer on behalf of all and to be an ambassador for all with the Father... The Word of God came in His own Person, because it was He alone, the Image of the Father Who could recreate man made after the Image. **Athanasius, On the Incarnation**



Implications

1. The need for precision



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2. The need to refute error
3. The need to study Scripture in context
4. The glory of Jesus

