

The Eternal Kingdom

Lesson #14

6/12/19

In our previous lesson we began looking at the “Apostolic Fathers”.

As a Review

- Who were the “Apostolic Fathers”?
- Who was Clement?
- Who did he write a letter to urging them to get their spiritual house in order?
- Did Clement ever suggest a difference between a “bishop” and “elders” in his writings?

(Read bullets).

Repeat the line, “we cannot put third century ideas into second century terminology.”

With that being said, lets move on to...

Ignatius of Antioch

- He was an early Christian writer and leader in the church at Antioch.
- Most likely born between 30 to 50 AD.
- After reading pg.48-49; paragraph one, what items appear questionable?
- Mattox states that other writers of that period state that churches were governed by a plurality of elders.
- After reading pg.49-51, final paragraphs, what conclusions do you come to?

The Epistle of Barnabas

- It is believed to have been written prior to 130 AD.
- It presents an argument that Christians are not bound to Mosaic Law.
- Most scholars agree that this Barnabas is not the same Barnabas who worked with the Apostle Paul.
- What are some points Mattox makes that's unique about the book?

Didache (130-150)

- After reading this section, we see the following items:
 - Didache means the “Teaching of the Twelve Apostles”
 - It’s agreed upon date is uncertain
- What does this letter indicate about church leaders?
- What do the letter reveal about “baptism”?
- What thoughts do you have regarding these matters?