

# TSIYON NEWS

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From Elijah

Consider this:

If you have viewed our live video streams, you know we often tell viewers that we like to entertain comments and questions. On *Rumble* recently a viewer asked us

about Athanasius of Alexandria (c. AD 296–373). This question is a little outside of our topic on our stream right now, but it is related. The question is related to the Christian controversy having to do with whether "Jesus" is God or not. Following is my reply:

Thanks for your comment about Athanasius of Alexandria (c. AD 296–373). *Wikipedia* sets out these basic facts about him:


"His intermittent episcopacy spanned 45 years (c. 8 June 328 – 2 May 373), of which over 17 encompassed five exiles, when he was replaced on the order of four different Roman emperors. Athanasius was a Christian theologian, a Church Father, the chief defender of Trinitarianism against Arianism, and a noted Egyptian Christian leader of the fourth century. [Arius of Alexandria c. AD 256–336 held to an alternate Trinitarian theology] Conflict with Arius and Arianism, as well as with successive Roman emperors, shaped Athanasius' career. In 325, at age 27, Athanasius began his leading role against the Arians as a deacon and assistant to Bishop Alexander of Alexandria during the First Council of Nicaea. Roman Emperor Constantine the Great had convened the council in May–August 325 to address the Arian position that the Son of God, Jesus of Nazareth, is of a distinct substance from the Father. Three years after that council, Athanasius succeeded his mentor as pope of Alexandria. In addition to the conflict with the Arians (including powerful and influential Arian churchmen led by Eusebius of Nicomedia), he struggled against the Emperors Constantine, Constantius II, Julian the Apostate and Valens. He was known as *Athanasius Contra Mundum* (Latin for 'Athanasius Against the World')."

[Eliyahu again] The entire story of the struggle between the position of Athanasius and that of Arius is lengthy, very detailed, went back and forth through the whole Roman world like a wrestling match, involved a series of Roman Emperors who vacillated frequently between the two camps of thought, and got ridiculous in the extreme. It involved condemning fellow-Christians as heretics, burning books, burning people, and exiling, at different times, supporters of both camps. All of this has been viewed as formative to Christian orthodoxy and is fundamental to the very definition of the Christian Church. Indeed, the argument can be made that the Church as an institution was actually born out of this Roman fiasco.

In my view, once aware of the history involved, to continue the

argument over the doctrinal details of the two positions personified by Arius and Athanasius is to miss the point of the historical lesson encapsulated in the birth of the Roman Church. In a simple sentence, it is all head and no heart. Neither position, that of Athanasius or that of Arius, has anything whatsoever to do with actually knowing God. In no way does any aspect of the Trinitarian argument reflect the heart of God or the will of God, Who sent His Son to save sinners - not burn them at the stake because they misunderstand some esoteric doctrinal creed of the theologians.

Is forced agreement really agreement at all?



**Say you agree with the Church or die.**

**The Poisoning of Arius**

[Contrast the Arian Controversy with how Yeshua handled the issue of His Divinity.] The Apostle Thomas was chosen by the Lord to be His Apostle. Thomas walked with the Lord and witnessed virtually all He did and said for His entire ministry. Yet, it was not until He met the risen Lord at the end that he exclaimed; "my Lord and my God!" You don't get that from a doctrine. You get that through a revelation of the Holy Spirit in your heart when you actually meet Yeshua as He is.

Roman religion is of the mind. God is too big to encompass all of Who and What He is in your tiny brain. Creeds are for fools. A real relationship with the living God is in the heart. As Paul wrote: "if you will confess with your mouth that Yeshua is Lord, and believe in your heart that Elohim raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Amen? (Romans 10:9-10)

[End of reply]

Surely, the Word plays a big part in coming to full faith in God. I'm not downplaying that. I'm simply agreeing with Moses, who said to YHWH; "please show me now your ways, that I may know you". It is in walking with Yeshua in His

Way that reveals to us Who He is, where He is from, and where He is taking us. This is not something we can fully take in simply by reading a Bible verse, though reading and doing the Bible is vital to the process. (Exodus 33:13)

There is an unfolding of one's understanding of Him as you actually walk with Him, observing what He does, and doing it yourself. In the process your inner spirit man is expanding, so that you can keep grasping more and more of Who He really is. This is the process we witness and even participate in as we journey through the Gospels with Messiah, side by side with the other disciples as their eyes are opened more and more as they walk with Him. As you do that, soon the Messiah jumps out of those Gospel pages, to become the most significant reality in your life. There is no way to put that powerful spiritual experience into a written formula.

When Yeshua was on earth He did the deeds of Divinity. We will be considering that tonight at our live-stream broadcast. That's tonight, August 31, at Tsiyon.Net at 8 PM, Central Time. Experience the things He does and the Person He is, as you move along this Way with Him.

In His Name,

Eliyahu  
Tsiyon.Org

### See these important messages:



*"This generation will not pass away until all things are accomplished." Luke 21:32*







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