







“Donatisten” (Continued)

- The rise of Donatism
 - Donatism defined
 - Petilian
- Donatism suppressed but not defeated
 - The Neo-Donatists

“Donatisten” (Continued)

- The Donatist “heresy”?
 - “Catholic”: An unacceptable word
 - “Schismatici”
- The lunatic fringe of Donatism

“Donatisten” (Continued)

- The real issue
- Zwingli and the stepchildren
- The “fall” of the church and its disastrous implications

“Donatisten” (Continued)

“Let us not pass lightly over the implications of the Constantinian change. A “fall” is a serious thing. The change that took place in the days of Constantine shook the ship from stern to stern; nothing in the Church’s theology, its organization, its place in the world, escaped the effects of the virus that had entered its bloodstream. Medication would have to be strong and in large doses. Moreover, let it be remembered that the Church which the men of the sixteenth century had inherited had borne the image of the Constantinian synthesis for well over a millennium when the Reformation began to happen... (cont’d)

“Donatisten” (Continued)

“...Hence let no one underestimate the headlong daring of the Radicals of Reformation times; they were out to turn the world upside down, the world as it had stood for so long a time that men could hardly imagine it had ever stood otherwise. Had it not been for the fact that the blueprints of the authentic church were still accessible, in the New Testament, there would never have been any clamor for the restitution of it.”

- Verduin

“Donatisten” (Continued)

- Unintended consequences?
 - The “ripple effect” of Constantinianism
 - Calvin and Servetus
 - Beza’s “defense” of sacralism


