

part of our great heritage of Presbyterianism.

And then we skip down another century and we come to St. Jerome. And if you go to St. Peter's church you will find there in St. Peter's in Rome a beautiful mosaic which pictures the old, old man, Jerome. As you look at him you hardly see how he can live more than an hour or two more and indeed the title of the picture is "Jerome Receiving His Last Communion," and you see the old man with the look on his face of devotion to his Lord as he receives the communion. And then you look into the works of Jerome, that perhaps greatest scholar in the first thousand years of Christian history, and you find that Jerome stated that the word *presbuteros* or presbyter, as we would say in English, and the word *episcopus* or bishop, as we would say in English, that the two are identical in meaning and use in the New Testament.

The Roman Catholic Church glorifies Jerome as one of their great founders, one of their great saints, but we follow the teaching which Jerome declares to be contained in the Scripture.

And then we see Jerome's greater contemporary - greater as a man, greater as a Christian leader, not as great as a scholar - ~~St. Augustin~~ <sup>Saint</sup> Augustin; and we think of St. Augustin and his clear presentation of Christian truth and his stand against palagianism when it first began to appear and the Pope of Rome said, "This man Palagaes is a noble man, a man of high ethics, a man of fine character, and certainly nobody should say anything." He said, "It pains me that anybody would criticize such a man." And Augustin pointed out that Palagaes' teaching that human nature is inherently good and needs only to be helped with the grace of God was definitely anti-Christian. That according to Christian <sup>teaching</sup> man is lost in sin and can be saved only as he finds salvation through Jesus Christ. And Augustin made his stand almost alone because nobody else said anything against Palagianism until <sup>Augustin</sup> ~~Augustin~~ spoke out, and then Jerome followed him and joined with him, and eventually it came about that no one would any longer wish to call himself a Palagian, so thoroughly <sup>did</sup> ~~had~~ people recognize that Augustin had proved his point of the depravity of man and the absolute need of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.