

claims that one has succeeded in finding definite truth, when he believes. "We are not," he says, "to be always seeking, for heretical wits are always offering many things for vain discussion." He emphatically disclaims all restless and empty seeking. Seeking must always be within the rule of faith. He teaches that the senses do not deceive us. All that is real is material. The soul has the same form as the body, and is delicate, luminous and æriform in substance. He zealously defended religious freedom.

Arnobius, who lived in the beginning of the fourth century, was also a defender of Christianity against the rationalizing influence of philosophy. His writings were apologetic rather than polemic. He sought to clear Christianity from the contempt that had been cast upon it because of the critical work that philosophy was doing. He claimed that Christianity was far superior to philosophy. "Philosophers," he says, "like Plato, were perhaps as the pagans believe, morally pure and learned in the sciences, but they could not like Christ work miracles," and consequently he gives more credence to Christ than to them.

He combats with Justin the Platonic doctrine that the soul is by nature immortal, and particularly the opinion that knowledge is reminiscence. He maintained the doctrine that immortality is a gift of God's grace. 1

In order to meet the doctrine of Plato concerning the immortality of the soul, he supposes a boy to be brought up wholly apart from society, and seeks to establish his position by the supposed results of imaginary questions put to this hypothetical being. He then goes on to attack the contrary opinions which Plato had sought to establish in a somewhat similar way, by challenging him to question the boy just imagined, who is, of course found to be exactly what was intended; and thus gives his Creator a triumph, by showing conclusively that man untaught is ignorant as a stock or stone.

Early Christianity held that the teachings of Christ constituted the field of search, and that all truth was received and held by faith. Grecian Philosophy was considered as inciting inquirers to break down the boundaries around the field, as well as the mode of receiving truth. This philosophy found its way into the Church through Gnosticism, and thus the issue was inevitable.

1. Ueberwig 319.