

"THE HYMN OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS" I Tim. 3:16.

This verse is in poetry. Many think it is a poetic creed which the early Christians used to sing as a hymn.

I. Incarnation, "God was manifest in the flesh"

1. The Nature of the Incarnation - *John 1:14*
2. The Meaning of the incarnation
3. The purpose of the incarnation
 - A. To reveal God to men - *John 1:18*
 - B. To bring men to God - *1 Peter 3:18*

II. Vindication, "justified in the Spirit"

1. The method of the vindication was the Resurrection.
 - A. Triumphant - *1 Cor. 15*
 - B. Evident - *Acts 1:3*
2. The agency of vindication - the Holy Spirit.
Heb. 9:14 *Romans 1:4*

III. Verification, "seen by angels"

1. The historic record
2. Its heavenly significance
 - A. Christ's victory acclaimed by angels in heaven.
 - B. Christ witnessed by angels in Revelation.

IV. Proclamation, "Preached among the nations"

1. The method of proclamation - preaching
 - A. Visualize
 - B. Organize
 - C. Vitalize
 - D. Agonize
2. The area of proclamation
 - A. "All the nations" -- missionary respon.
 - B. Universal responsibility
 - C. Personal responsibility

Could a mariner sit idle if he heard the drowning cry?

Could a doctor sit in comfort and just let his patients die?

Could a fireman sit idle, let men burn and give no hand?

Can you sit at ease in Zion with the world around you damned?

V. Application, "believed on in the world"

1. Early application in Apostolic age
2. Continuous application in history
3. Personal application in individual experience.

A. The meaning of faith - Heb. 1:1

B. The power of faith - Rom. 1:16

VI. Glorification, "received up into glory"

1. The glory of the ascension
2. The glory of his present position as our High Priestly Intercessor. Heb. chs. 3-10
3. The glory of His Second Coming
4. The glory of His eternal Kingdom.

Hob. mem. 8/8/54