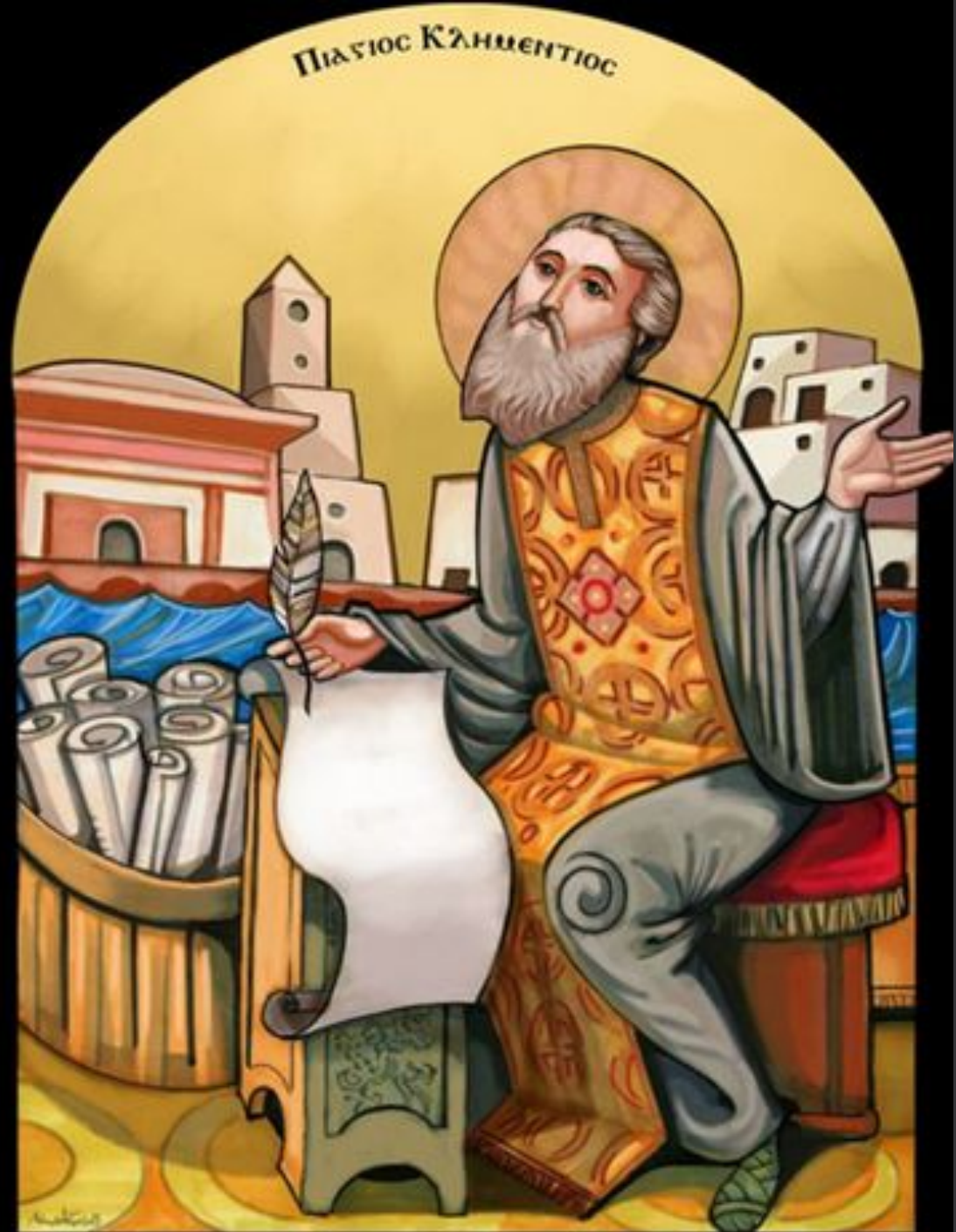


School of Alexandria St. Clement

“You shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)



Can everyone think about the best teacher they've ever had and why do they think he/she is the best?

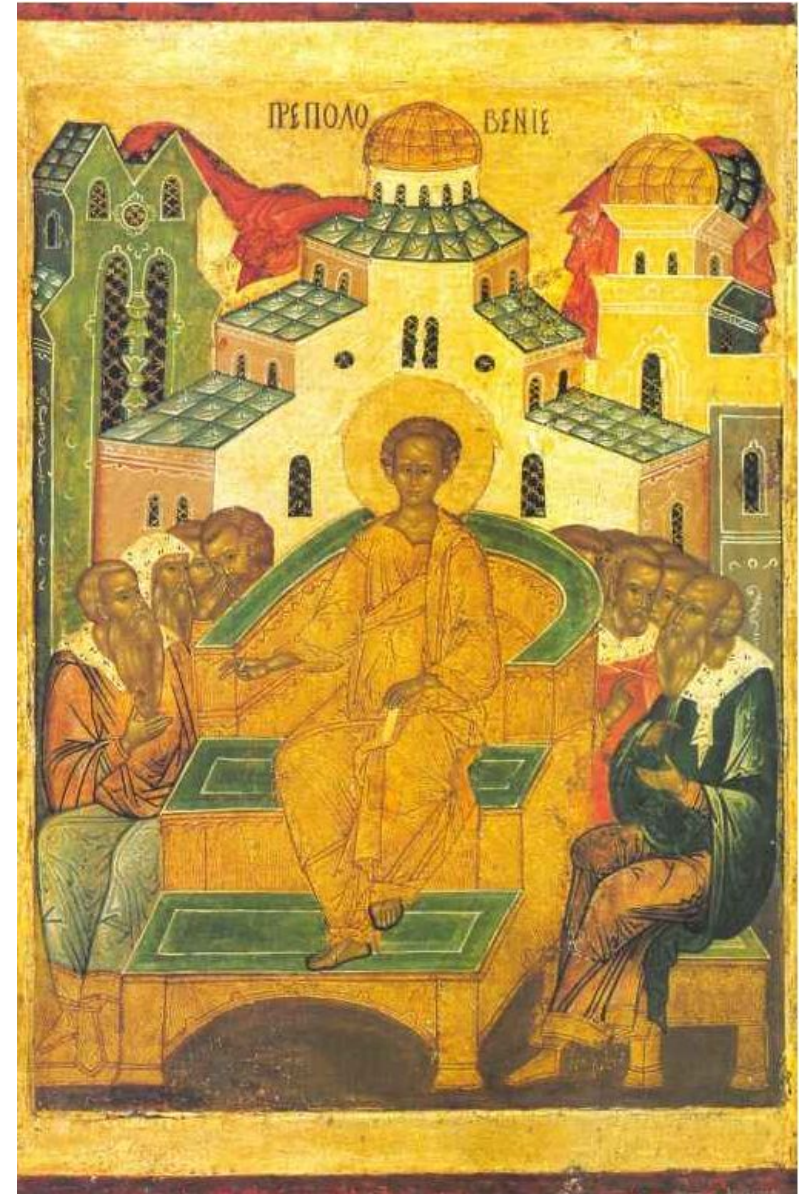


**St. Clement of
Alexandria
was an
example of a
great teacher!**



St. Clement - Biography

- Saint Clement was born of pagan parents.
- He was a disciple of Pantanaeus and was converted to Christianity and ordained a priest in Alexandria.
- He succeeded Pantanaeus as dean of the School of Alexandria.
- Among his disciples were Origen and Alexander, Bishop of Jerusalem..



St. Clement - Teachings

- St. Clement used 3 forms of teachings:

- Allegorism

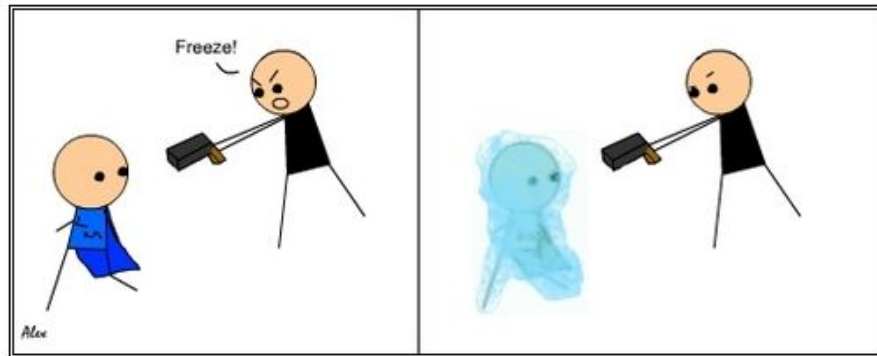
- Philosophy

- Gnosis



St. Clement - Allegorism

- Allegorism focused on the figurative interpretations of the Scripture as opposed to the literal meaning.



Freeze = Don't move

Freeze = turn into ice

- The School of Alexandria adopted the allegorical interpretation of the Holy Scripture, believing that it hides the truth and at the same time reveals it. It hides the truth from the ignorant, whose eyes are blinded by sin and pride, hence they are prevented from the knowledge of the truth. At the same time it always reveals what is new to the renewed eyes of believers.
- **St. Clement of Alexandria** is considered the first Christian theologian (writer) who uses allegorical interpretation, giving a cause of using it in a practical way. He says that the Bible has hidden meanings to incite us to search and discover the words of salvation, which are hidden from those who despise them.

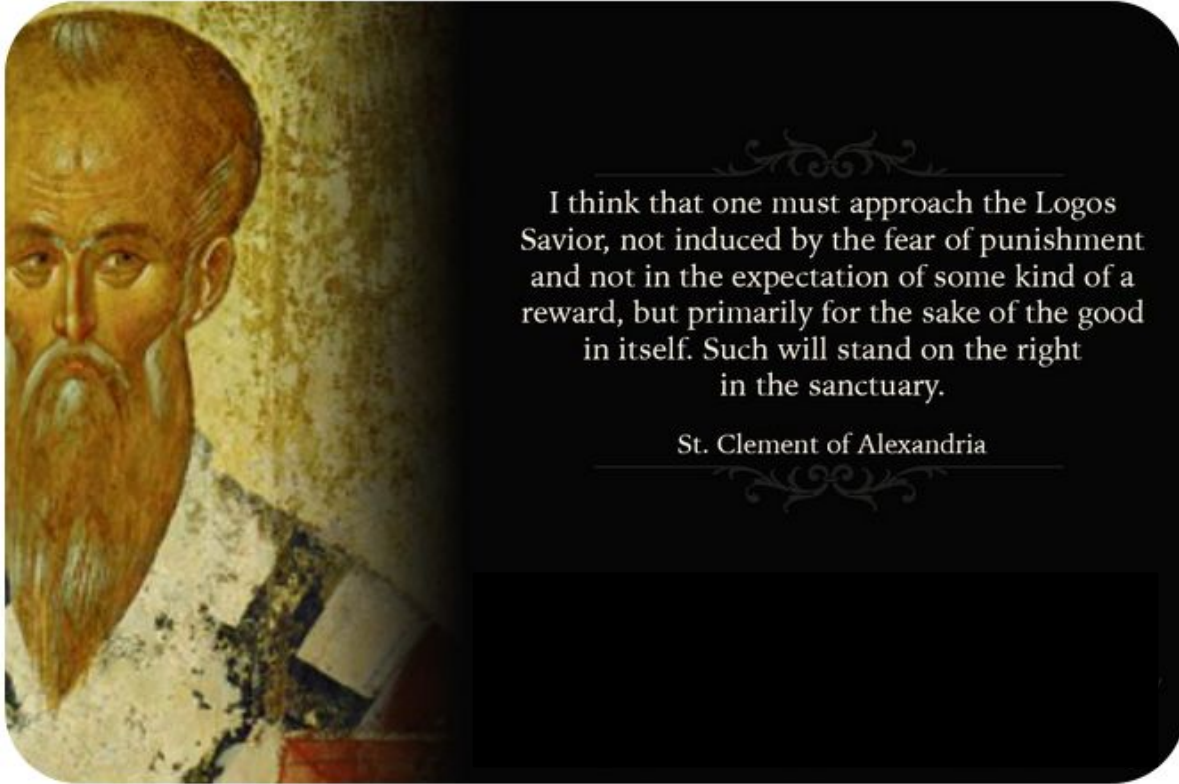
Guess what's the literal meaning then explain the figurative interpretation for the verse below



"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

Revelation 3:20 (KJV)

St. Clement - Philosophy



I think that one must approach the Logos Savior, not induced by the fear of punishment and not in the expectation of some kind of a reward, but primarily for the sake of the good in itself. Such will stand on the right in the sanctuary.

St. Clement of Alexandria

- Influenced by the Greek thinkers, Philosophy was used to defend and explain Christian beliefs.
- St. Clement encouraged Christians to find the truth through philosophy because he believed that Christianity was the true philosophy that fulfilled Greek philosophy, and also that true philosophy was striving to know the true God.

St. Clement - Gnosis



The rule of life for a perfect person is to be
in the image and likeness of God

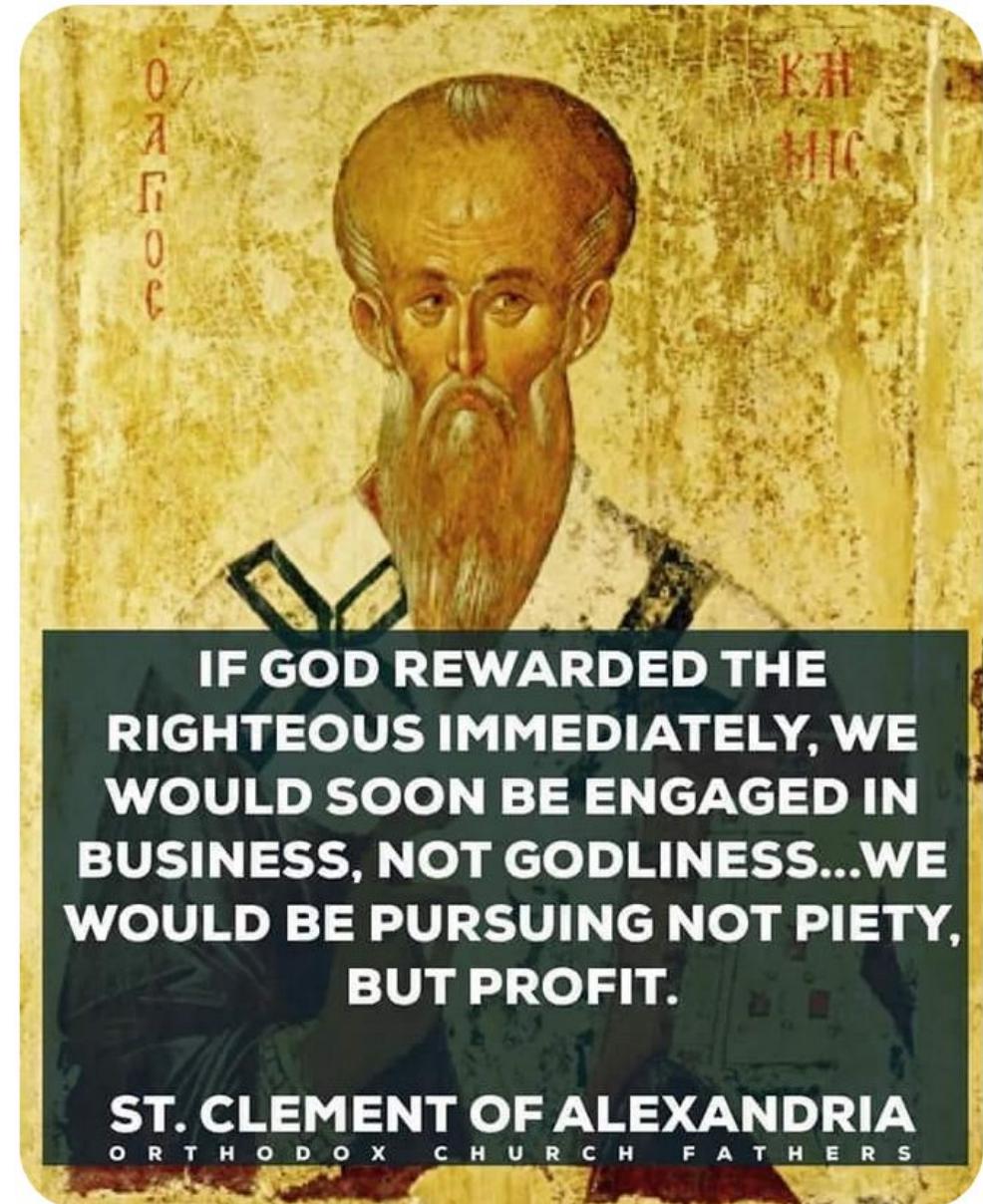
St. Clement of Alexandria

- *Gnosis*, meaning “knowledge”, was used by St. Clement.
- He taught that a Christian Gnostic is someone who received the divine *gnosis* from the Holy Spirit by illumination through Christ, within the church’s traditional beliefs.
- However, he believed that one must first have faith before knowledge, and also that God can only be known through the Son.

St. Clement - Contributions

- St. Clement did much good for the church.
- He wrote an extensive amounts of books that explain Christianity.
- Helped spread Christianity and reduce paganism.
- Helped in the first steps of the church from primitive Orthodoxy towards institutional Orthodoxy. (explain more)
- He helped teach one of the world's most intelligent Christian writers in history, Origen.

Thanks St. Clement for all your hard work!



Life Application

- Understand that learning your religion is just as (if not more) important as what your school teaches you - although we can't dedicate as much time to learning about God as we do in school, try to put the same effort and energy into your daily Bible readings and prayers as you do your lessons.

Questions

- Was Saint Clement pagan or Christian when he was born?
- Who was St. Clement's teacher?
- What is allegorism and who was the first to use it?
- What is one of St. Clement's contributions? (ask multiple kids)
- Who were St. Clement's students?