

Biographical Sketch: Tertullian

Katrina Morris

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Running Head: TERTULLIAN

Christian Theologian Tertullian born Quintus Septimus Florens Tertullianus between 155 and 160 AD, died after AD. Tertullian was of North African descent and is responsible for the term “*trinity*” as it pertains to the Christian faith. The son of a Roman African officer; he was not raised a Christian but converted at the age of thirty. Tertullian was a very well-educated man that studied law. Though not an ordained minister he defended Christianity with the apology that addressed Roman governors in the provinces. It is said the argumentative and savvy writing made him one of the most likeable early Christian writers. According to Encyclopedia it’s said that Tertullian helped to develop a large amount of Christian terminology and vocabulary [CITATION The04 \l 1033].

Stanley M. Horton states that it was Tertullian who developed the orthodox doctrine and theology of the trinity during a time when the heresy of Monarchianism was being planted among the Christian community by a man names Praxeas. Monarchianism taught that God was one solitary ruler excluding the Son and the Spirit. [CITATION Sta07 \p 156-157 \l 1033]. Establishing the orthodox Trinitarian doctrine was Tertullian’s way of clearly establishing the deity of Jesus without created two separate Gods.

Tertullian’s contributions to early Church History gained him notoriety in the Christian community. He defended Christianity whole heartedly with factual and scriptural support. I am honored to have learned that he was of African descent and is such a staple in the Christian faith. I bet his pagan parents never thought he would leave such an impacting mark on the Roman Catholic Church and Christianity as a whole.