



GREGORY OF NAZIANZUS

Gregory of Nazianzus

9 May

d. 390

Bishop and Theologian

- ✠ Studied at Athens with Basil and Julian
- ✠ Friend but not relative of other Cappadocians
- ✠ Brilliant rhetorician and orator; difficult, reclusive personality
- ✠ Bishop of Sasima, then [Nicene] Bp. of Constantinople, then of Nazianzus
- ✠ Wrote *Theological Orations*, letters and poems
- ✠ “The Theologian,” teacher for Jerome

We would keep equally far from the confusion of Sabellius and from the division of Arius, which are evils diametrically opposed, yet equal in their wickedness. For what need is there heretically to fuse God together, or cut him up into inequality? Fifth Theological Oration, XI

If anyone does not believe that Mary is Theotokos, he is severed from the Godhead. Letter 101

O All-Transcendent God, you are alone beyond the power of thought, yet all that we can conceive springs from you. All the expectation and pain of the world coalesces in you. All things utter a prayer to you, a silent hymn composed by you. You are the goal of all that exists. You are one and you are all, yet you are none of the things that exist – neither a part nor the whole.