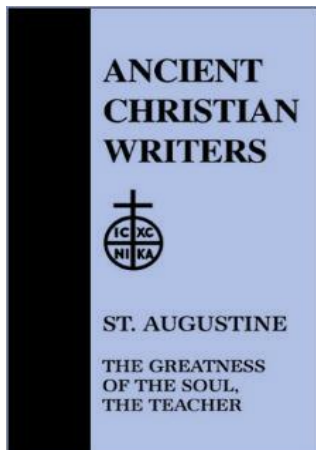


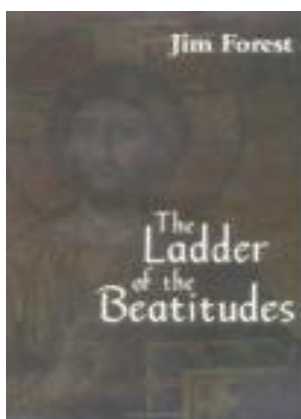
### **Irenaeus: PROOF OF THE APOSTOLIC PREACHING**

**St. Irenaeus** was a Bishop in France, student of St. Polycarp, who in turn was student of St. John the Theologian, ca. 200AD. He wrote a theological treatise on **Orthodox Preaching** as given to us by the Apostles. He starts with discussing the way of Christian Life, then addresses Faith and Works, the Origins of Creation, the Holy Trinity vs. Creation, the Three Articles of Faith, God the Father (Yahweh) and mankind, the Holy Trinity and our rebirth, the Seven Heavens, the Story of Creation, the Fall, the history of Redemption from Abel to Jesus and the Apostles, Christ in the Old Testament, Jesus in the New Testament, the New Covenant, Gentiles as the new Holy People and heresies that existed in his time.



### **Augustine: GREATNESS OF THE SOUL, TEACHER**

**St. Augustine** was an early Christian philosopher come theologian, ca. 400AD. In this book he examines knowing our soul and thus ourselves within the materialistic context of our existence (which can *make us fit* for a happy life) vs. knowing God (which *gives us* happiness). In this process he also counters the Manichean heresy of believing only what we can see (something he did believe for 9 years but later renounced). This led him to understand and write that "man being in the image of God" does not mean that either God or the human soul is material, but they are alike in the spiritual realm.



### **Jim Forest: THE LADDER OF THE BEATITUDES**

Jim Forest is a lay Theologian and peace activist that converted from Roman Catholic to Orthodox in 1989. In this book he illustrates the mysteries of the Beatitudes by examining the lives of the saints, scripture, and everyday life. He says that these Divine Blessings are all aspects of our communion with God. As such, they are like rungs on a ladder, each one leading to the next. They also reflect the teachings and events from the preaching of the Kingdom of Heaven to the Crucifixion and Resurrection.