

Church History Boot Camp

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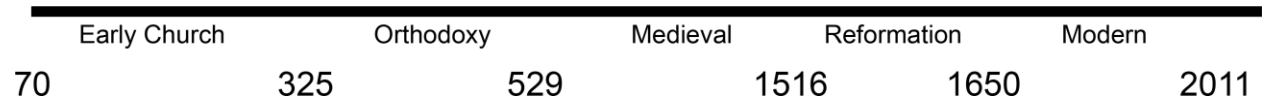
Week 1: Early Church (70 – 325)

Week 2: The Councils (325 – 787)

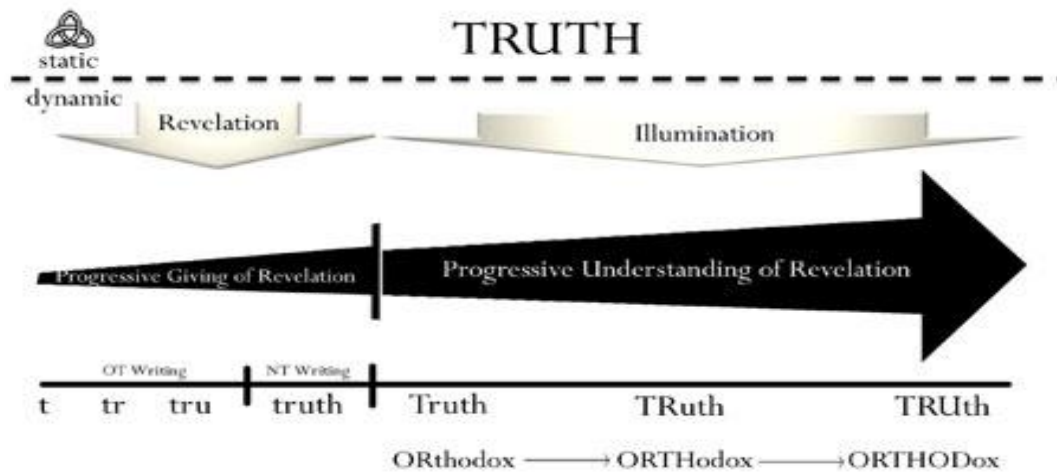
Week 3: The Medieval Church (500 – 1516)

Week 4: The Reformation (1517 – 1650)

Week 5: The Modern Church (1650 – Present)



Philosophy of History



Persecution

“If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.”

(1 Pet. 4:16)



“The oftener we are mown down by you, the more in number we grow; the blood of Christians is seed.”

- Tertullian (Apology, 50)

Facts about Martyrdom in the early church:

- Martyrdom in the early Church was sporadic, spaced sometimes by long periods of relative peace.
- Early believers were charged with atheism, cannibalism, and incest.
- Persecution often grew out of animosity by the populace rather than from deliberate government policy.
- There have been more martyrs in the past 50 years than in the first 300 combined.
- Most imperial decrees were directed against church property, the Scriptures, or limited to church leadership.
- Christians were blamed for causing natural disasters due to refusing to worship the deities that protected communities.



Death of the Apostles

1. James - Killed with a sword. 45 A.D.
2. Peter - Hung on a cross "head downward." A.D. 64
3. Andrew - Hung from an olive tree. A.D. 70
4. Thomas - Burned alive. A.D. 70
5. Phillip - Crucified. A.D. 54
6. Matthew - Beheaded. A.D. 65
7. Nathanael - Crucified. A.D. 70
8. James - Thrown from the temple. A.D. 63
9. Simon - Crucified. A.D. 74
10. Judas Thaddeus - Beaten with sticks. A.D. 72
11. Matthias - Stoned on a cross. A.D. 70
12. John - Natural death. A.D. 95
13. Paul - Beheaded. A.D. 69



“A vast multitude [of Christians], were convicted, not so much of the crime of arson as of hatred of the human race. And in their deaths they were made the subjects of sport; for they were wrapped in the hides of wild beasts and torn to pieces by dogs, or nailed to crosses, or set on fire, and when day declined, were burned to serve for nocturnal lights.”

-Tacitus' *Annals* XV.44

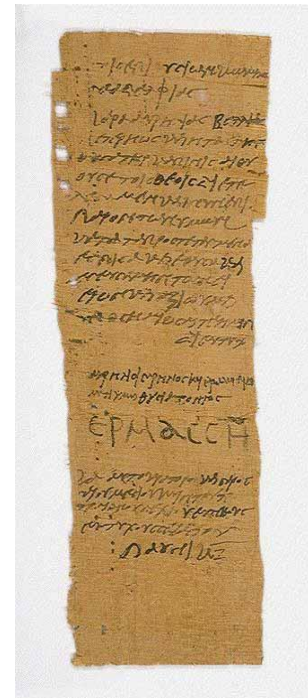
Peter Paul	Clement of Rome John (exiled)	Ignatius Polycarp	Perpetua and Felicity Justin Martyr	Irenaeus	Hippolytus	Origen	Cyprian	Mauritius
Nero	Domitian	Trajan	Marcus Aurelius	Septimus Severus	Maximinus the Thracian	Decius	Valerian	Diocletian
64	90-96	98-117	161-180	201-211	235-236	249-251	257-260	303-311

Labellus: A certificate demonstrating that one had made the appropriate sacrifices to the gods of Rome.

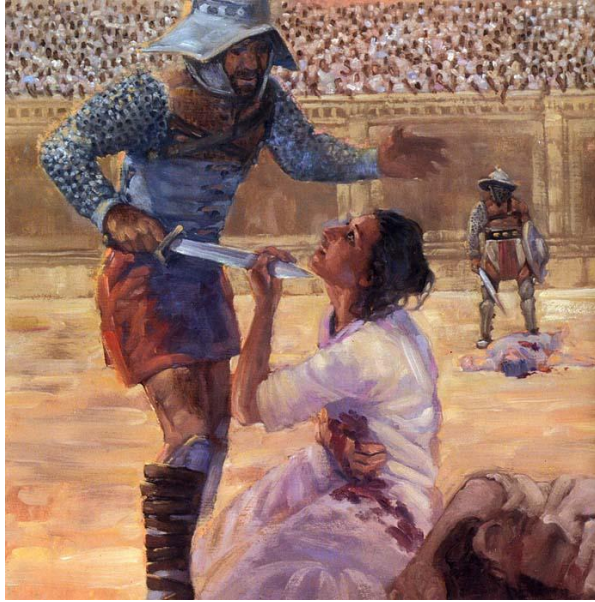
Sacrificati: Describes those who had actually offered a sacrifice to the idols. If a Christian made sacrifices and obtained a labellus, they were only offered absolution on their deathbeds.

Libellatici: Describes those who had false labellus created without actually making the sacrifices. A two year sanction was imposed as penance.

Traditores: Describes those who gave up scriptures and/or revealed names of fellow Christians. From Latin *tradere* - "hand over; deliver; betray"



Polycarp was brought before the proconsul, who begged him to have respect for his great age (he was probably nearly 100), saying, "Swear by the genius of Caesar" and denounce "the atheists." But Polycarp, seeing "the lawless heathen" in the amphitheater, "waved his hands at them, and looked up to heaven with a groan and said, 'Away with the atheists.'" The proconsul persisted, "Swear, and I will release you. Curse Christ." And Polycarp replied, "Eighty-six years have I served him, and he has done me no wrong; how can I blaspheme my King who saved me?" He was condemned to death and burned alive.

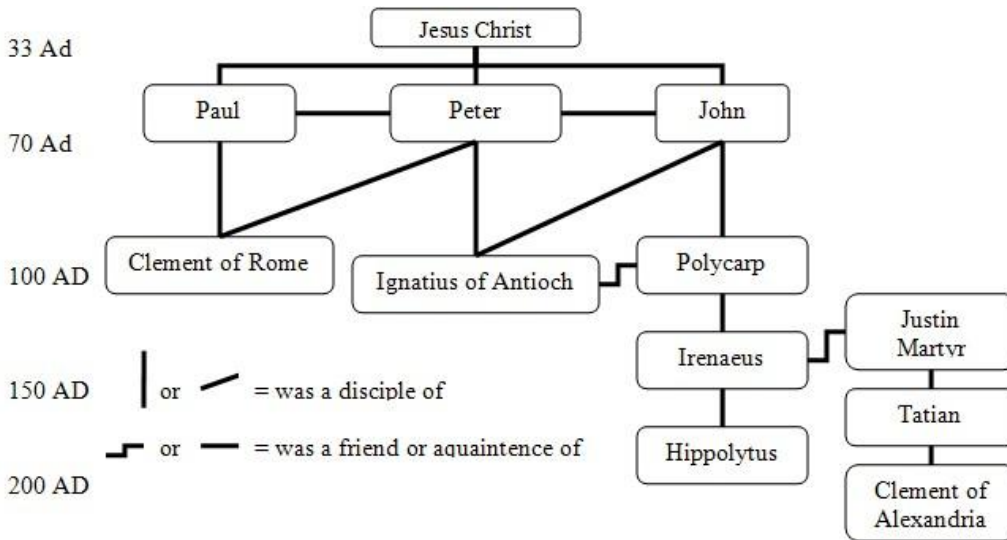


“While” says she, “we were still with the persecutors, and my father, for the sake of his affection for me, was persisting in seeking to turn me away, and to cast me down from the faith,—‘Father,’ said I, ‘do you see, let us say, this vessel lying here to be a little pitcher, or something else?’ And he said, ‘I see it to be so.’ And I replied to him, ‘Can it be called by any other name than what it is?’ And he said, ‘No.’ ‘Neither can I call myself anything else than what I am, a Christian.’ Then my father, provoked at this saying, threw himself upon me, as if he would tear my eyes out. But he only distressed me, and went away overcome by the devil’s arguments. Then, in a few days after I had been without my father, I gave thanks to the Lord; and his absence became a source of consolation to me.

-The Passion of Perpetua and Felicity

Apostolic Fathers

Name	Dates	Place	Works	Facts
Clement of Rome	c.30– c. 100	Rome	1 Clement	Considered to be the forth Pope.
Ignatius	d. 117	Antioch	Ephesians Magnesians Trallians Romans Philadelphians Smyrnaeans To Polycarp	Letters written in route to martyrdom Opposed gnosticism
Shepherd of Hermas	Late 1 st century	Rome	The Shepherd	Wrote in visions and parables
Barnabas	Late 1 st century	Alexandria	Epistle of Barnabas	Wrote in allegory
Papias	c. 60 – c. 130	Hierapolis	Exposition of the Oracles of Our Lord	Knew John Was premillennial Claimed Mark’s Gospel was from Peter
Polycarp	c. 69 – 160	Smyrna	Philippians	Knew John



“And in proportion as a man seeth that his bishop is silent, let him fear him the more. For every one whom the Master of the household sendeth to be steward over His own house, we ought so to receive as Him that sent him. Plainly therefore we ought to regard the bishop as the Lord Himself.”

(Polycarp, Ephesians 6:1)



“Let us fear the Lord Jesus [Christ], whose blood was given for us. Let us reverence our rulers; let us honor our elders; let us instruct our young men in the lesson of the fear of God. Let us guide our women toward that which is good: let them show forth their lovely disposition of purity; let them prove their sincere affection of gentleness; let them make manifest the moderation of their tongue through their silence; let them show their love, not in factious preferences but without partiality towards all them that fear God, in holiness. Let our children be partakers of the instruction which is in Christ. Let them learn how lowliness of mind prevaleth with God, what power chaste love hath with God, how the fear of Him is good and great and saveth all them that walk therein in a pure mind with holiness.”

(Clement of Rome, Corinthians 21:6-8)

Didache 7

“And concerning baptism, baptize this way: Having first said all these things, baptize into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living water. But if you have no living water, baptize into other water; and if you cannot do so in cold water, do so in warm. But if you have neither, pour out water three times upon the head into the name of Father and Son and Holy Spirit. But before the baptism let the baptizer fast, and the baptized, and whoever else can; but you shall order the baptized to fast one or two days before.”

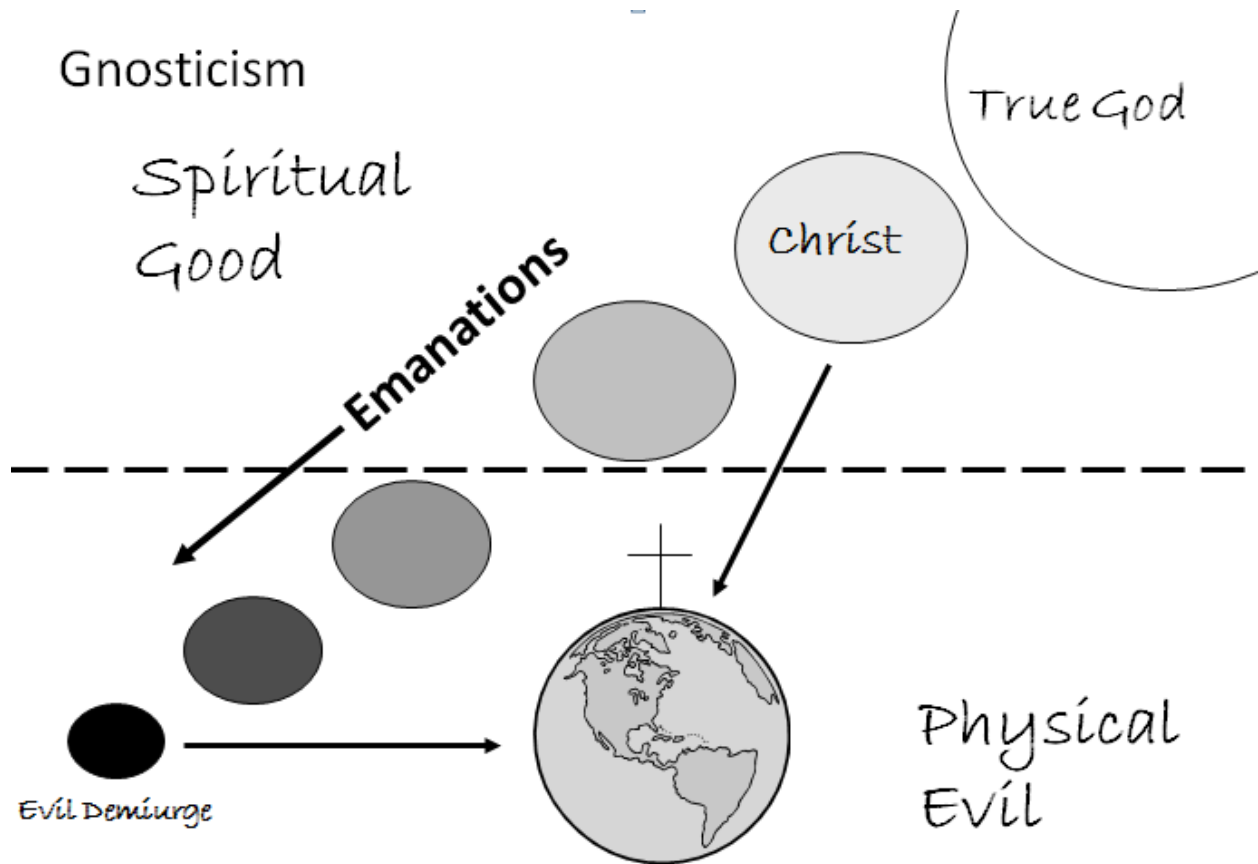
Facts about faith in the early church:

- Most of the leaders were pastoral.
- Most elements of faith were in “seed form”.
- Much time was spend trying to give a defense of Christian behavior to political leaders.
- Practical leadership was the primary concern.
- Establishment of the “Rule of Faith”
- Catechumen (new converts) were expected to go through three years of training before being baptized.



“Let me compare the catechizing to a building. Unless we methodically bind and joint the whole structure together, we shall have leaks and dry rot, and all our previous exertions will be wasted.”

-Cyril of Jerusalem, *Prochatechesis* 11



Monasticism:

Gk. *monachos*, "to be alone"

Early church practice of separating from the world in order to live a holy life, devoted to God.

Food

Alcohol

Marriage/Sex

Fellowship

Speaking

regula fide

“rule of faith”

Refers to the concept that there is an unbroken chain of orthodox belief that can be historically traced through the witness of the church back to the apostles.

Earliest proponents: Irenaeus and Tertullian

Apostolic Succession

The unbroken succession which sustains the orthodox faith through the centuries. Those who fall within this line can trace their teachings back to the Apostles.

Catholic Understanding: Succession in person (i.e. Popes and Bishops)

Protestant Understanding: Succession in teaching

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

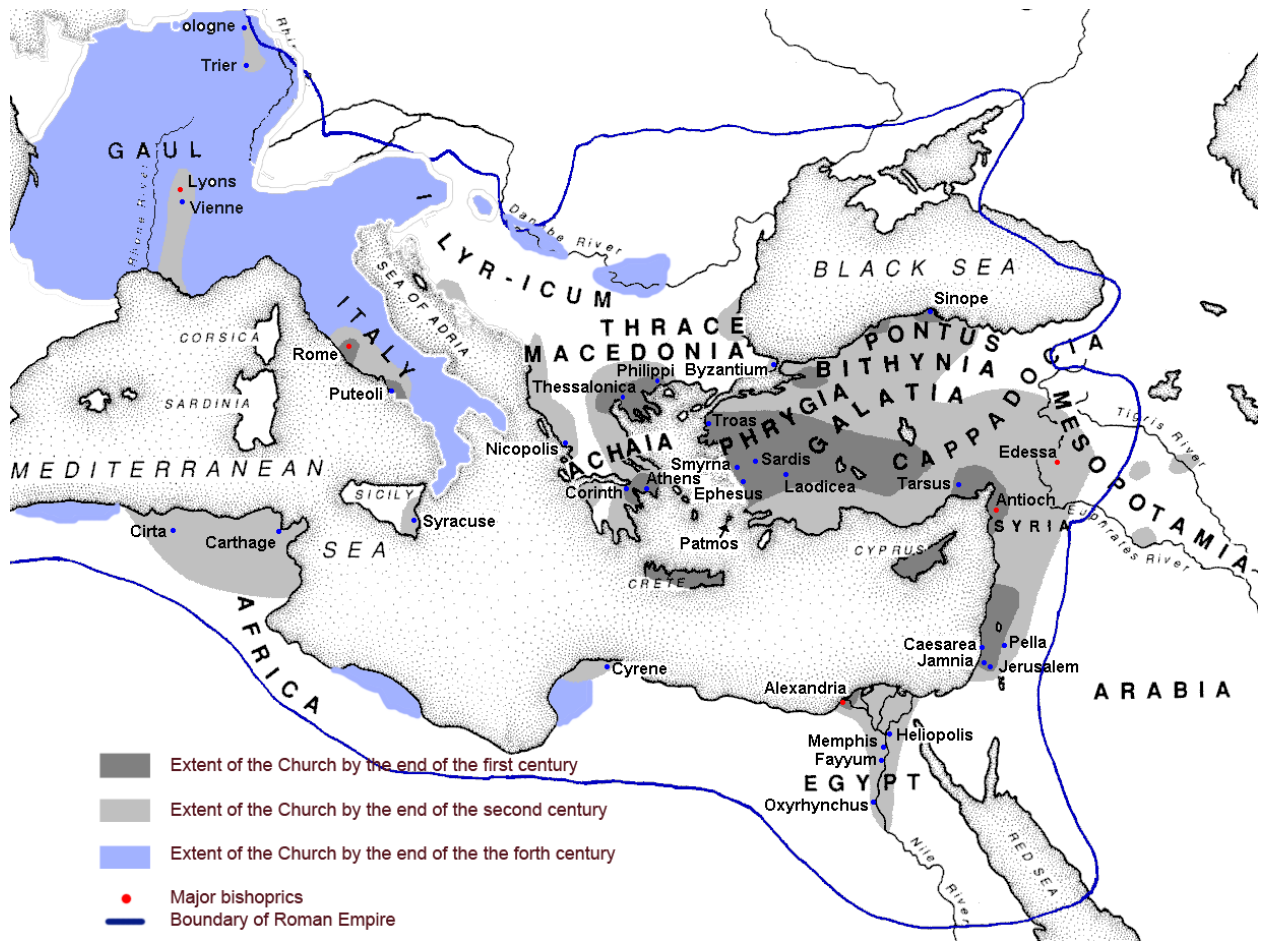
I believe in the Holy Spirit.

The holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Amen



Edict of Milan (313)



Field Ops

How is it that the death of the Apostles provides a unique “seed” or witness to the truths of Christianity?

How does the fact that the inception of Christianity is filled with martyrdom effect your view of God?

In what ways is gnosticism still present in the church today?

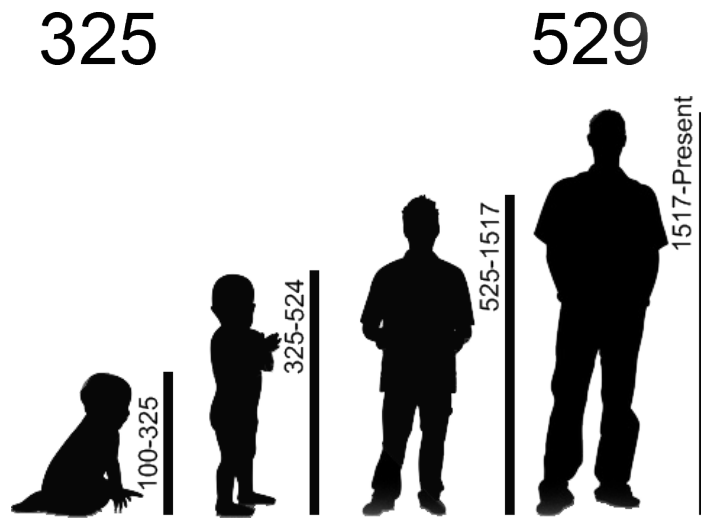
Considering most churches have a four week membership class when someone becomes a believer, discuss the strengths and weakness of having a three year initiation into Christianity?

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Session 2 - ORTHODOXY

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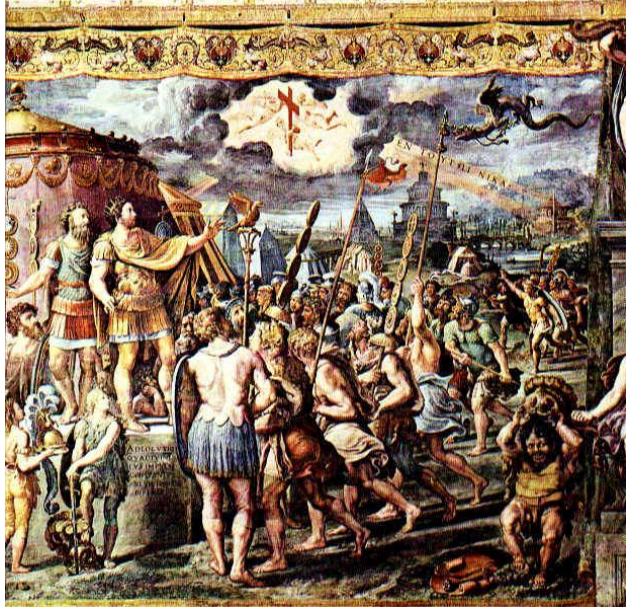
Orthodoxy



Edict of Milan

Roman Emperors 312

East		West	
Galerius	Severus	Constantine	Maxintius



Battle of the Milvian Bridge, fresco by Raphael in the Vatican Palace



Roman Emperors 313

East		West	
Galerius	Severus	Constantine	Maxintius
Licinius			

Edict of Milan

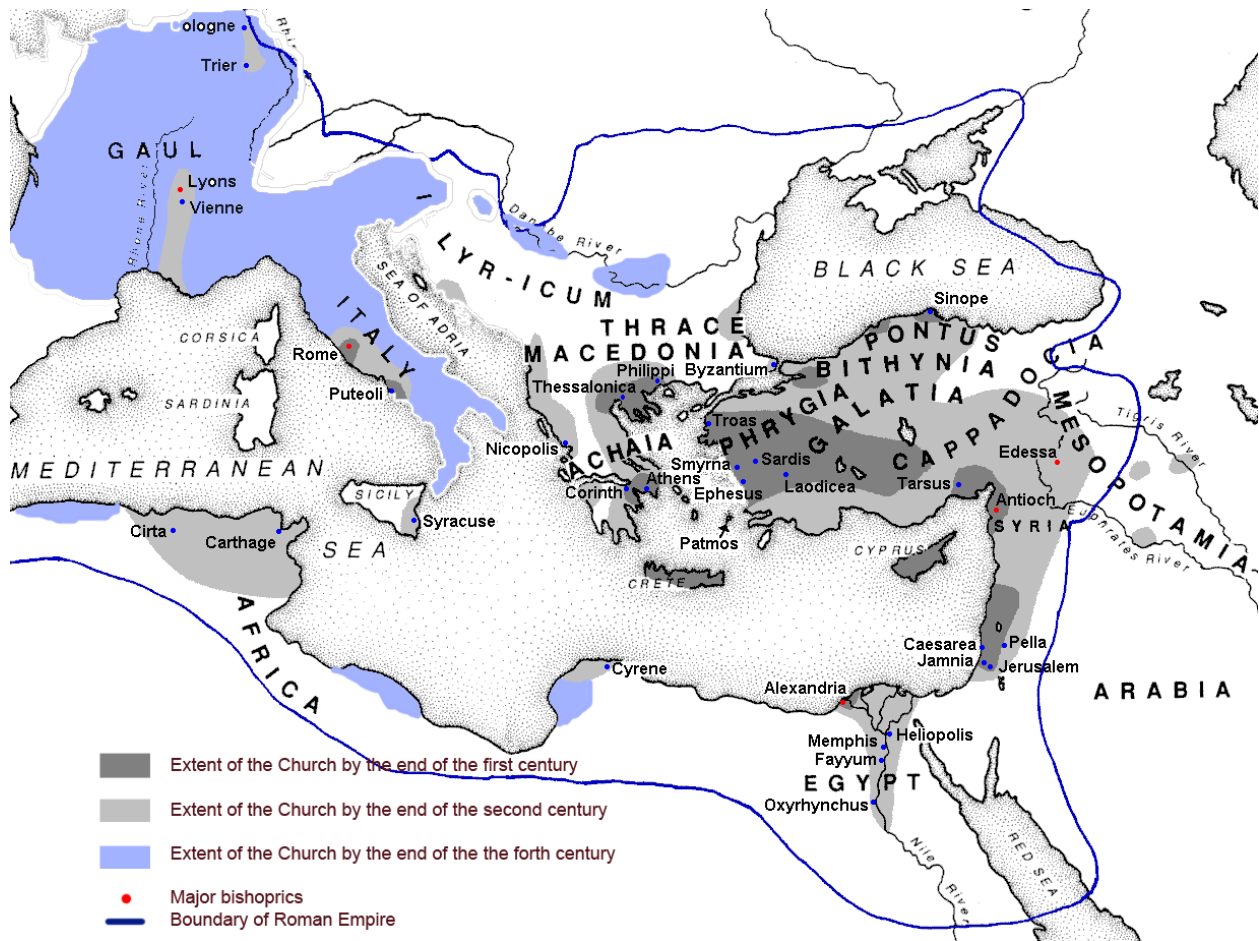
Edict agreed upon by Emperors Constantine and Licinius which legalized Christianity, granting them restitution of lands and property.



“We . . . grant to the Christians and others full authority to observe that religion which each preferred.”

-Constantine and Licinius

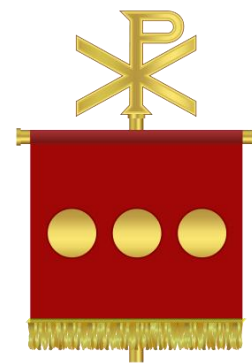
Council of Nicea



Roman Emperors 324

East/West

Galerius Severus Constantine Maxintius
 Licinius



Arius:

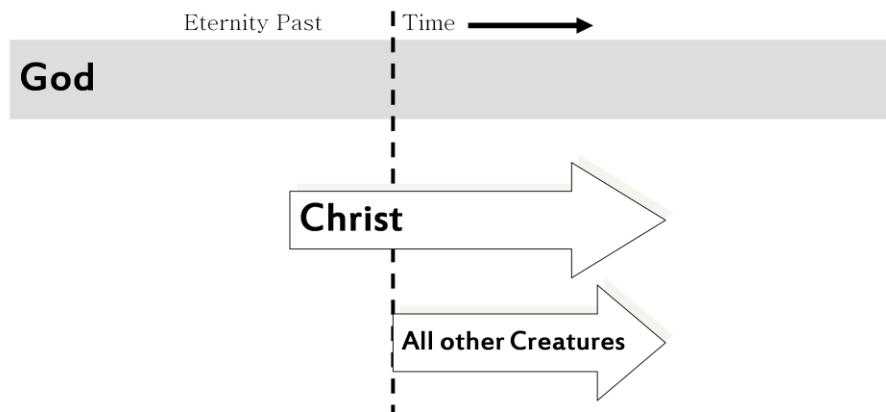
Believed that Christ is not eternally God but a creation of God the Father, having his genesis/“begottenness” in eternity past. He is the first created being.



“If the Father begat the son, he that was begotten had a beginning of existence; hence it is clear that there was a time when the son was not.”-Arius

Arian Hymn

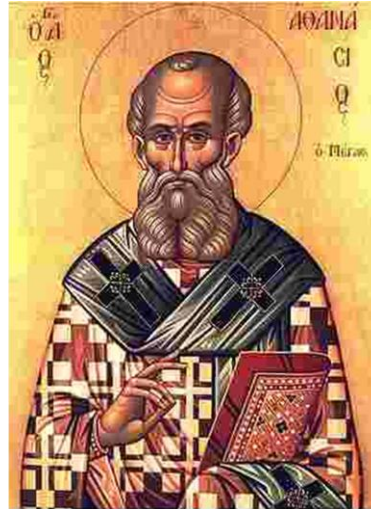
The uncreated God has made the Son
A beginning of things created,
And by adoption has God made the Son
Into an advancement of himself.
Yet the Son’s substance is
Removed from the substance of the Father:
The Son is not equal to the Father,
Nor does he share the same substance.
God is the all-wise Father,
And the Son is the teacher of his mysteries.
The members of the Holy Trinity
Share unequal glories.



Athanasius:

298 – 373

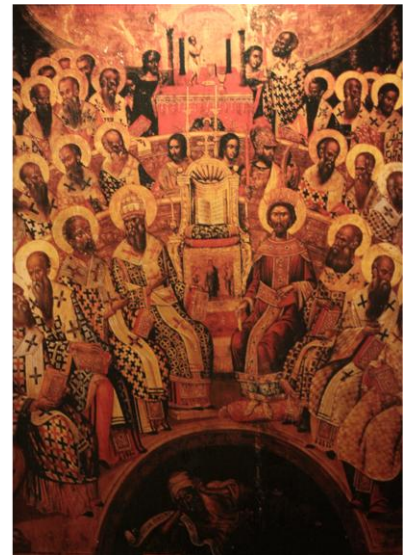
Bishop (Pope) of Alexandria for 45 years, 17 of which were spent in five exiles due to the instigation of four emperors. He is best known for his stance against Arianism as an ardent defender of the Trinity.



Council of Nicea

325

The first “Ecumenical Council”, called by Emperor Constantine to solve the religious division of the empire brought about by the Arian controversy.



Does it make one *iota* of difference?

↓

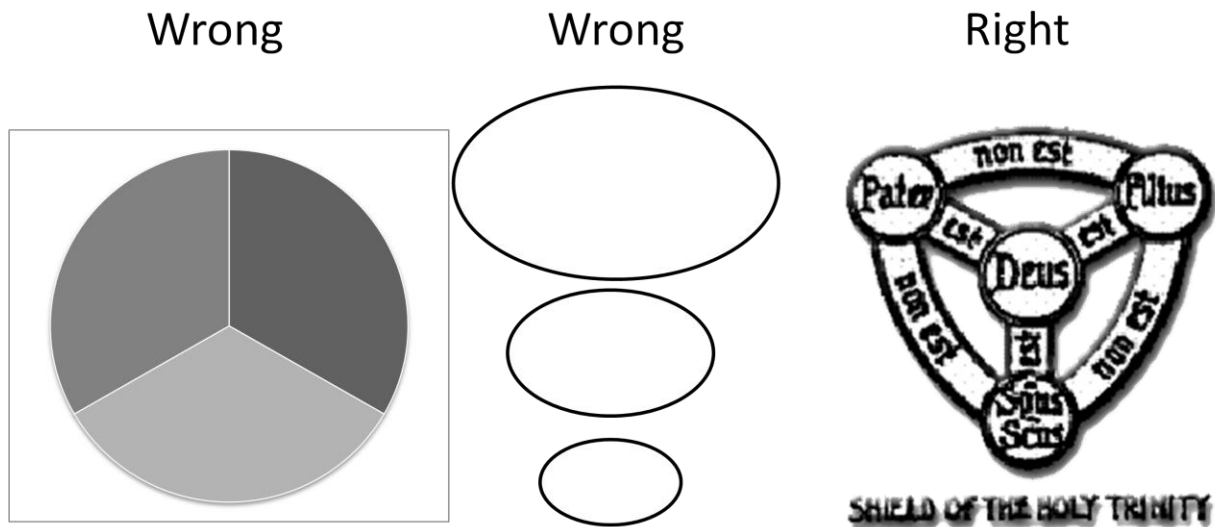
Nicea	<i>ὁμοουσιος</i> <i>homoousios</i>
Arius	<i>ὁμοιουσιος</i> <i>homoiousios</i>

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty [*pantokratora*], creator of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten [*pro panton ton aionon*] of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of the same essence [*homoousion*] with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Fables about Nicea

- It is illegitimate because it was called by a civil authority.
- The doctrine of the Trinity was invented then.
- Constantine forced the bishops to agree.
- It was a close vote.

Council of Chalcedon

Now that we know that Christ was fully God, what does it mean that he is man?

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.

1 John 4:2

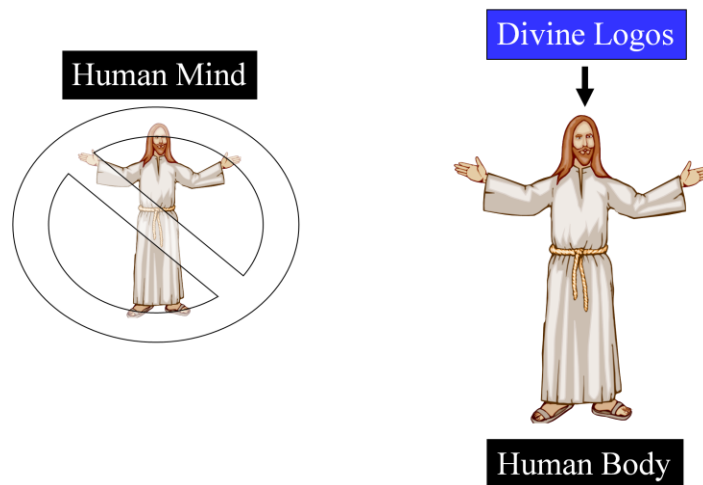
“By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.”

Early Christological heterodoxy:

1. Apollinarianism
2. Nestorianism
3. Monophysitism

Apollinarianism:

Christ was God who took on a human body without a human mind. The divine mind took the place of what would have been the human mind. The Word became flesh only in the sense that God took on a human body. As some have termed it, Christ was “God in a bod.”

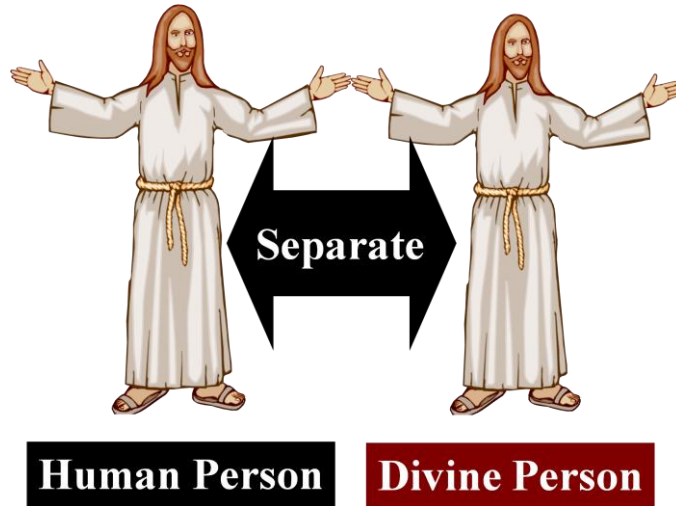


What is wrong with Apollinarianism?

“What God has
not assumed is not saved.”
—Gregory of Nazianzus

Nestorianism:

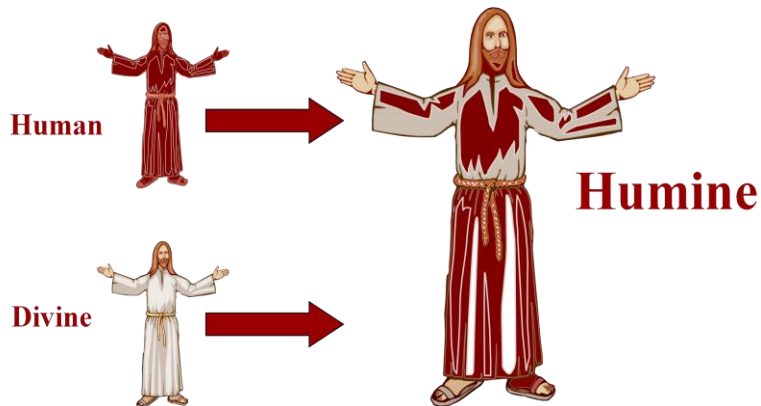
Christ was fully man and fully God, and these two natures were united in purpose, not person. They had difficulty understanding how someone with two natures could be a single individual.



What is wrong with Nestorianism?

Monophysitism:

Christ's human nature was integrated with His divine nature, forming a new nature. Christ was from two natures before the union, but only one after the union.

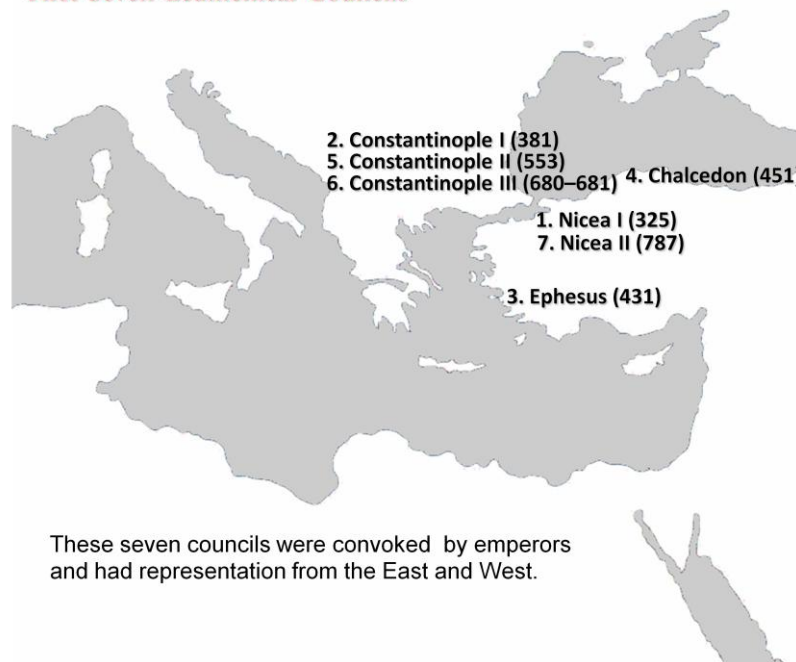


What is wrong with Monophysitism?

Definition of Chalcedon 451

“Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer, one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.”

First Seven Ecumenical Councils



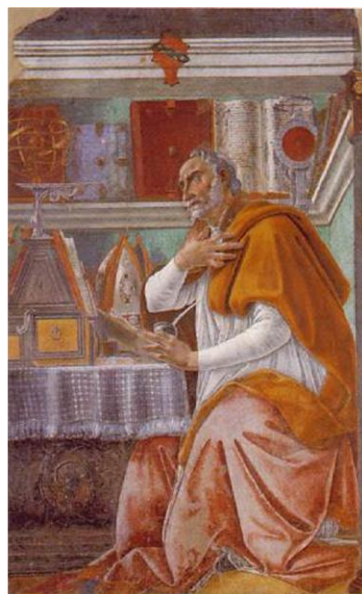
Council	Year	Summoned By	Ecclesiastical Representative	Bishops Present	Primary Actions	Acceptance
Nicea	325	Constantine	Athanasius (although not present)	300 (mostly Eastern)	Formulated the Nicene Creed, which is respected as the orthodox understanding of the divinity of Christ. Condemned Arianism.	All orthodox Christianity
Constantinople I	381	Theodosius	Gregory of Nazianzus	186	Formulated the orthodox understanding of the Holy Spirit by reaffirming and adding to the Nicene Creed. Provided a catholic succession in the patriarchal See of Constantinople. Condemned Apollinaris. Condemned Eutyches.	All orthodox Christianity (Nicene Creed)
Ephesus	431	Theodosius II	Cyril	60	Condemned Nestorius and approved the term <i>Theotokos</i> ("God Bearer") for Mary. Condemned Chiliasm. Condemned Pelagianism.	Most orthodox Christianity
Chalcedon	451	Marcian and Valentinian	Pope Leo I	450	Formulated the Definition of Chalcedon, which is respected as the orthodox understanding of the hypostatic union of Christ. Condemned Eutyches again. Marriage forbidden for clergy.	All orthodox Christianity (Definition of Chalcedon)
Constantinople II	553	Justinian	Pope Vigilius	165 (mostly Eastern)	Condemned Theodore of Mopsuestia, therefore giving more allowance to Monophysites. Established the perpetual virginity of Mary. Condemned Origen.	Some Eastern Orthodox and some Roman Catholics. Rejected by most Protestants.
Constantinople III	678	Pogonatus	Pope Agatho	174	Condemned Monothelitism. Condemned Pope Honorius for acceptance of Monothelitism.	Protestants, Eastern Orthodox and some Roman Catholics
Nicea II	787	Irene (regent, Constantine's widow)	Tarasius	300	Condemned Iconoclasm inaugurated by Emperor Leo III. Requirement of relics for all churches to be consecrated.	Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox

Augustine

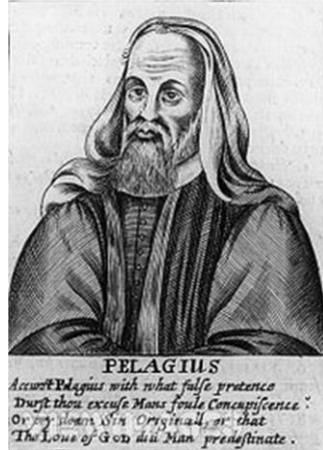
St Augustine

354-430

Bishop of Hippo often regarded as the greatest theologian between Paul and Calvin. Augustine, among other things, battled Pelagius over the issues of sin and grace.



“Command what you will, but give what you command.”



Pelagius

354-420

Believed that man could succeed without the grace of God through his natural ability.

CANON 1. If anyone denies that it is the whole man, that is, both body and soul, that was "changed for the worse" through the offense of Adam's sin, but believes that the freedom of the soul remains unimpaired and that only the body is subject to corruption, he is deceived by the error of Pelagius and contradicts the scripture which says, "The soul that sins shall die" (Ezek. 18:20); and, "Do you not know that if you yield yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are the slaves of the one whom you obey?" (Rom. 6:16); and, "For whatever overcomes a man, to that he is enslaved" (2 Pet. 2:19).

CANON 2. If anyone asserts that Adam's sin affected him alone and not his descendants also, or at least if he declares that it is only the death of the body which is the punishment for sin, and not also that sin, which is the death of the soul, passed through one man to the whole human race, he does injustice to God and contradicts the Apostle, who says, "Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned" (Rom. 5:12).

CANON 3. If anyone says that the grace of God can be conferred as a result of human prayer, but that it is not grace itself which makes us pray to God, he contradicts the prophet Isaiah, or the Apostle who says the same thing, "I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me" (Rom 10:20, quoting Isa. 65:1).

CANON 4. If anyone maintains that God awaits our will to be cleansed from sin, but does not confess that even our will to be cleansed comes to us through the infusion and working of the Holy Spirit, he resists the Holy Spirit himself who says through Solomon, "The will is prepared by the Lord" (Prov. 8:35, LXX), and the salutary word of the Apostle, "For God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13).

CANON 5. If anyone says that not only the increase of faith but also its beginning and the very desire for faith, by which we believe in Him who justifies the ungodly and comes to the regeneration of holy baptism -- if anyone says that this belongs to us by nature and not by a gift of grace, that is, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit amending our will and turning it from unbelief to faith and from godlessness to godliness, it is proof that he is opposed to the teaching of the Apostles, for blessed Paul says, "And I am sure that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6). And again, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). For those who state that the faith by which we believe in God is natural make all who are separated from the Church of Christ by definition in some measure believers.

CANON 6. If anyone says that God has mercy upon us when, apart from his grace, we believe, will, desire, strive, labor, pray, watch, study, seek, ask, or knock, but does not confess that it is by the infusion and inspiration of the Holy Spirit within us that we have the faith, the will, or the strength to do all these things as we ought; or if anyone makes the assistance of grace depend on the humility or obedience of man and does not agree that it is a gift of grace itself that we are obedient and humble, he contradicts the Apostle who says, "What have you that you did not receive?" (1 Cor. 4:7), and, "But by the grace of God I am what I am" (1 Cor. 15:10).

regula fide

“rule of faith”

Refers to the concept that there is an unbroken chain of orthodox belief that can be historically traced through the witness of the church back to the apostles.

Earliest proponents: Irenaeus and Tertullian

Apostolic Succession

The unbroken succession which sustains the orthodox faith through the centuries. Those who fall within this line can trace their teachings back to the Apostles.

Catholic Understanding: Succession in person (i.e. Popes and Bishops)

Protestant Understanding: Succession in teaching

Field Ops

Arius put human reasoning and understanding above God’s revealed will when he denied the Trinity? How else do we sometime place human reasoning above Scripture?

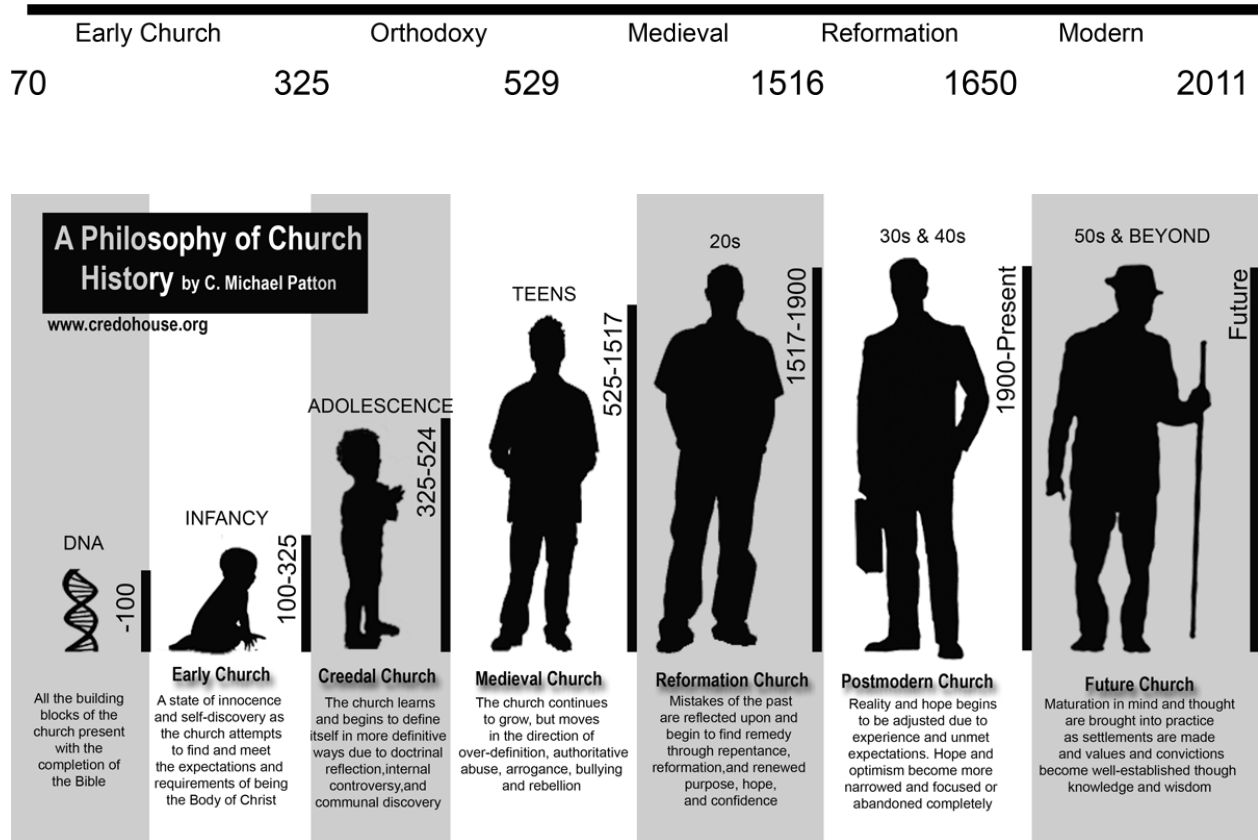
How does the reality that Christ is fully human change the way you view him? Explain.

The Pelagian error was a belief that we did not need God’s grace. How can we commit this same error in other areas of our life?

Our God is in charge of history. The first doctrine to be discussed, articulated, and matured in the first council was Christ relationship to the Father and the Trinity. What does this say about how God wants to be known?

Session 3 - Medieval

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regula fide

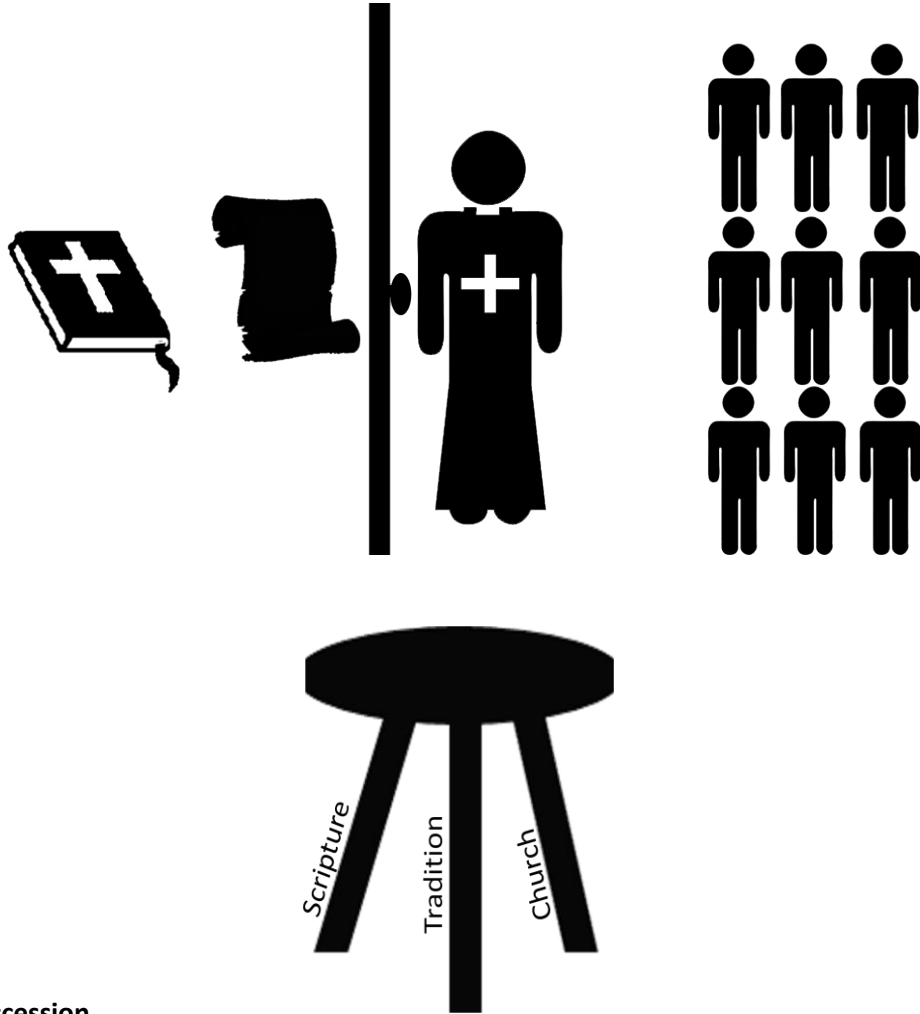
regula fide
 "rule of faith"

Refers to the concept that there is a historic tradition regulating orthodox belief to which all Christians have always subscribed. This rule of faith is expressed through creeds and confessions.

Earliest proponents: Irenaeus and Tertullian

Vincentian Canon

“That which has been believed always, everywhere, and by all.”

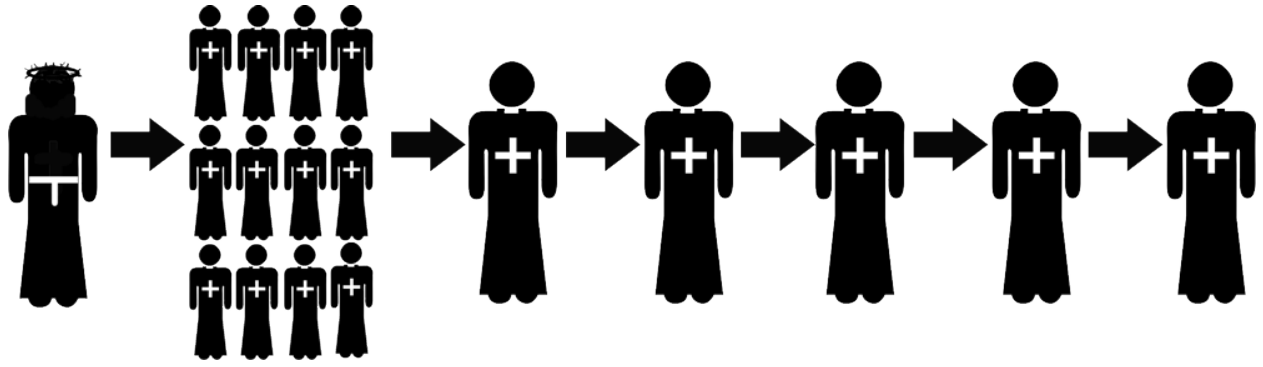


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Catholic Understanding: Succession in person (i.e. Popes and Bishops)

Protestant Understanding: Succession in teaching



Rise of the Papacy

Leo I meets
Attila the Hun
in 450 A.D.



Leo III crowns
Charlemagne
on December
25, 800 A.D.

Corruption of the *regula fide*

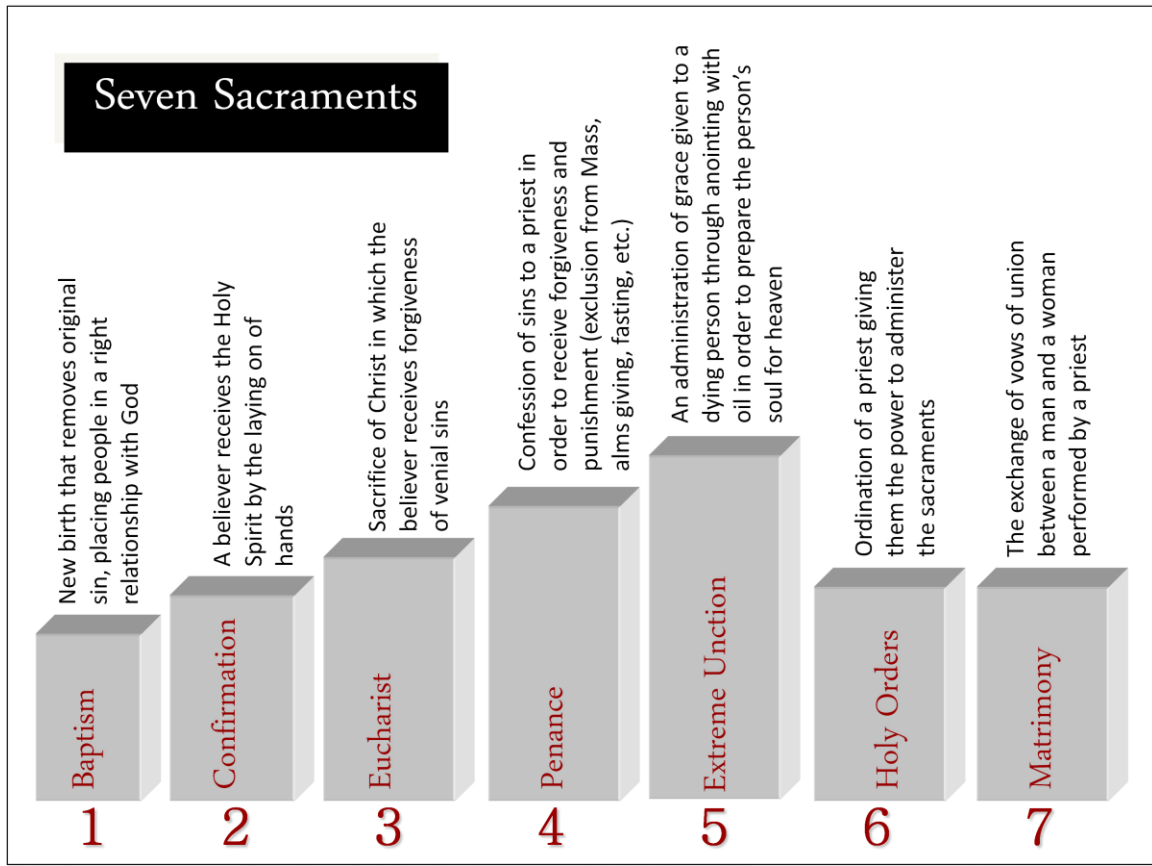


Summary of the Essentials



Requirements of Non-Essentials

Event	Year
Latin used in prayer and worship imposed by Gregory I	600
Prayers directed to Mary, dead saints, and angels	600
Kissing the pope's feet began with Pope Constantine	709
Veneration of cross, images, and relics authorized	786
College of Cardinals established	927
Canonization of dead people as saints	995
Attendance at Mass made mandatory	1000
Celibacy of priesthood decreed by Pope Gregory VII	1079
The sale of indulgences established to reduce time in Purgatory	1090
Transubstantiation proclaimed by Pope Innocent	1215
Doctrine of the seven sacraments affirmed	1215
Infallibility of the papacy firmly pushed by Pope John XXII	1324
Tradition claimed equal in authority to the Bible at the Council of Trent	1545
Apocryphal book declared canon by Council of Trent	1546



extra ecclesiam nulla salus

“outside the Church there is no salvation”

"We are compelled in virtue of our faith to believe and maintain that there is only one holy Catholic Church, and that one is apostolic. This we firmly believe and profess without qualification. Outside this Church there is no salvation and no remission of sins. . . .

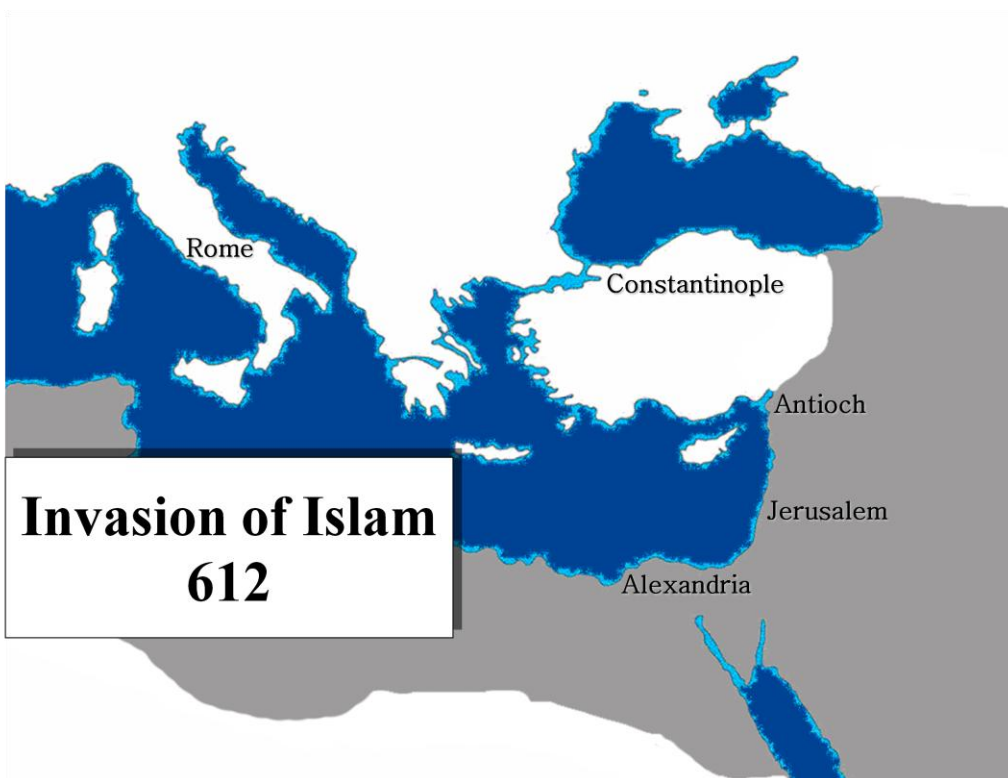
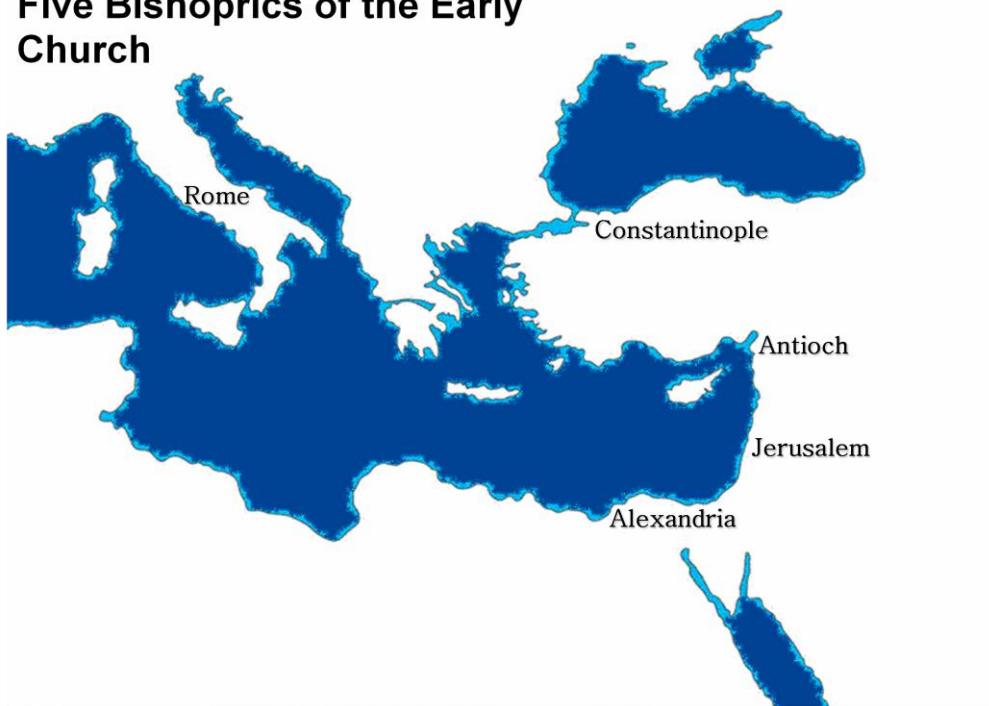
Furthermore, we declare, we proclaim, we define that it is absolutely necessary for salvation that every human creature be subject to the Roman Pontiff."

-Pope Boniface VIII, Bull *Unam sanctam* (1302):



The Great Schism 1054

Five Bishoprics of the Early Church



Reasons for the schism

- Rome's claim to supremacy
- Distinction and suppression of language
- Distinction in philosophy
- Filioque
- Atrocities of the Fourth Crusade

filioque

“and the son”

Western Church addition to the Nicene Creed at Third Council of Toledo (589; officially 1014) which expressed that the Holy Spirit proceeded from the Father and the Son.

What Happened in 1054?

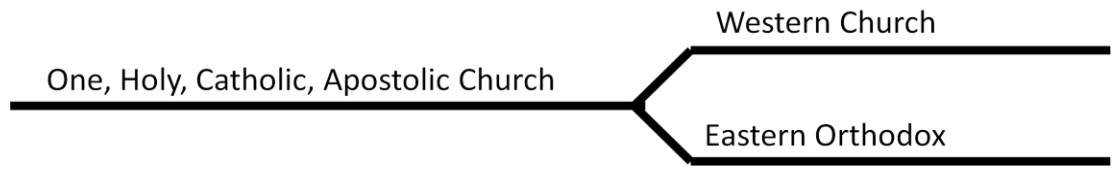
In 1054, Roman legates from Pope Leo IX traveled to Michael Cerularius, Patriarch of Constantinople, to deny him the title Ecumenical Patriarch and to insist that he recognize the Church of Rome's authority as the head and mother of all churches. When Cerularius refused, Cardinal Humbert, one of the legates, excommunicated Cerularius. Cerularius in return excommunicated Cardinal Humbert and other legates.

Fourth Crusade (1202-1204)

Eastern Church called on their brothers in the West to come to their aid as the Muslim invasion was bringing immanent destruction. Instead of coming to their rescue, “crusaders” sacked Constantinople, pillaged their land, and raped the women.

Characteristics of Eastern Orthodoxy

- Doctrine does not seek progression but ancient identification
- Often referred to as the church of the seven councils
- Seeks mystery above reason
- Liturgy is the Gospel lived
- Rejects Purgatory
- Seeks divination



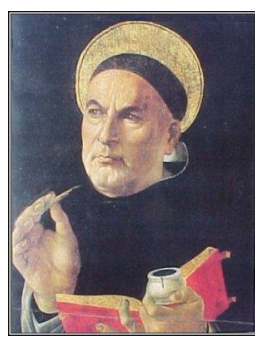
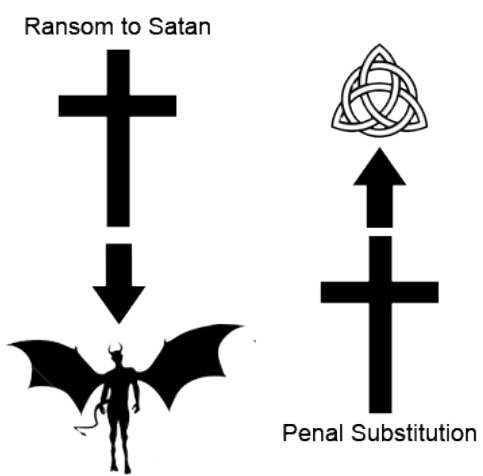
Scholasticism (1000-1500 A.D.)

Scholasticism

A school of Medieval Christian thought which was called upon to make a defense for Christianity in an increasingly pluralistic world. Scholastics sought to systematize Christian thought as well as provide a broad defense of Christianity from the area of natural philosophy and reason. Among the scholastics were Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard, Albertus Magnus, Duns Scotus, William of Ockham, Bonaventure, and Thomas Aquinas.

Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)

Medieval philosopher, and theologian who is best known for his modifications to the doctrine of the atonement and the ontological argument for the existence of God.



St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

Medieval philosopher, and theologian known for his defense of Christianity, development of natural theology, and defining of transubstantiation.

Field Ops

There was a guy who was able to ordain his dog on the internet. In what ways have we “thrown the baby out with the bathwater” with regard to Apostolic Succession.

Describe what the church would be like if the *regula fide* was not regarded as authoritative in any way

The Eastern Church emphasizes mystery. The Western church leans more on reason. Which is better and more biblical? Explain.

Anselm revolutionized the doctrine of the atonement in the eleventh-century. Considering that it took more than eleven centuries for the church to articulate the doctrine of the atonement as a vicarious substitution made to the Father, how does this affect your understanding of that doctrine?

Church History Boot Camp

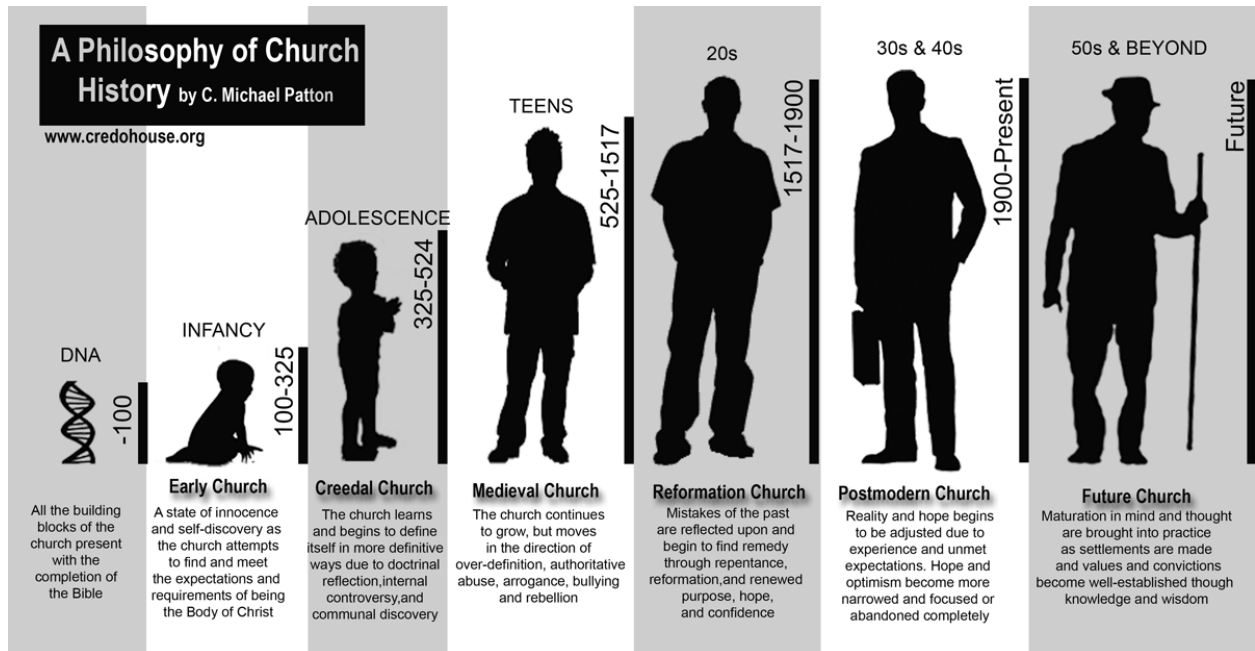
Michael Patton and Tim Kimberley
credohouse.org | michaelp@reclaimingthemind.org

Reformation

M

1516

1650



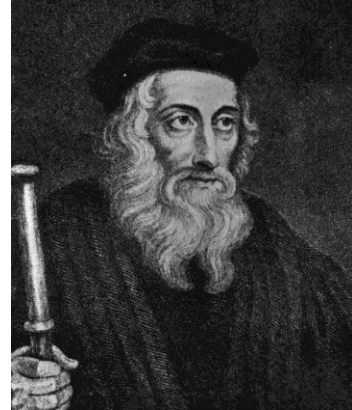
Preparation for Reformation

- I. Internal Preparation
- II. External Preparation

I. Internal Preparation

1. John Wycliffe (ca. 1329-1384)

Oxford professor who challenged the authority of the Pope, translated the Bible into English.



Contentions:

- Jesus, not the Pope was the head of the Church.
- The Ecclesiastical authority was saturated with greed and immorality and needed reform.
- Placed the authority of the Bible above that of the Church.
- Opposed transubstantiation thereby challenging the Church's right to withhold salvation.
- Condemned Purgatory.
- Condemned in 1382.
- Bones dug up and burned
- Lollards followed.

2. John Huss (ca. 1373-1415)



Professor of philosophy at the University of Prague who sought to reform the doctrine and practices of the Catholic Church.

Contentions:

- Christ, not the Pope, is the head of the church.
- Simony is immoral.
- Challenged the sale of indulgences.
- Reform for the lives of the clergy.
- Communion can be administered by the laity.
- Condemned and burned at the stake.

Fall of the Papacy

During the 12th and 13th centuries, the power of the Pope reached its zenith, with the King of France, England, and Emperor merely serving as the Pope's marshals. He held the keys to the kingdom of heaven in heaven and on earth. Rome was seen as the fountain head for the conversion of all of Europe.

The Avignon Papacy (1309-1378):

- Clement V, a French Pope, refused to leave France and conduct his Papacy in Rome.
- 1309 Moved the conclave to Avignon, France.
- Papacy was under the King of France.
- Pope's and cardinals lived like kings.
- Seven Avignon Popes.
- Immorality was rampant.
- Simony was standard.
- Greed, lust, and scandal were associated with Papacy.

The Western Schism (1378-1415):

- 1377 Pope Gregory VII moved Papacy back to Rome to reestablish the integrity of the papacy, but died after a few months.
- People then demanded a Italian Pope.
- Cardinal elected Urban VI in 1378
- He was ascetic and demanded such of the French cardinal. They did not like it.
- Eventually, many of them repudiated Urban's election claiming it was under duress from the people.
- Cardinals elected Clement VII and returned to Avignon.
- Urban rejected his deposition.
- Western Christianity had two Popes for nearly 40 years!
- Civil leaders bartered for the sale of their allegiance.
- With so much uncertainty, loyalty to one's nation began to displace loyalty to the church as primary.
- Conciliarism: The papacy served the entire church as the administrative head, but ultimate ecclesiastical authority rested with the whole ecclesiastical council.
- At the council of Pisa (1409), cardinal declared both Pope's illegitimate and elected Alexander V.
- Neither deposed pope accepted the deposition.
- Now we have three popes!
- Emperor John XXII (1410-1415) called the Council of Constance (1415-1418). 3,500 attended. Nations voted. Cardinals were denied a vote.
- All three popes were deposed.

Renaissance Papacy:

- One Pope back in Rome.
- Turned to the pleasures of the Renaissance, through paintings, art, and buildings.
- Papal moral reform did not happen.

- Alexander VI (1492-1503), part of the Borgia family, openly flaunted his immorality and promoted his children to offices in the church. He appointed his nine-year-old son as a cardinal.
- Pope Leo X, pope at the time of Luther, when elected Pope said, “God has given us the Papacy, let us enjoy it.”

II. External Preparation

Black Death (Bubonic Plague):

- Between 1347-1351 killed between one-third and one half of Europe's population.
- Outbreaks for the next 120 years.
- By 1450 Europe’s population was down seventy-percent.
- Danse Macabre: “dance of death”



Invasion of Islam into Constantinople:

- Eastern Orthodoxy and the Byzantine emperor requested aid as the Ottoman Empire was were invading. Eastern Orthodoxy was open to reuniting.
- At the Council of Florence (1438-1439), Rome required nothing less than complete capitulation of Eastern perspectives to Rome.
- Eastern Orthodoxy rejected the offer.
- Rome sent no aid.
- Constantinople fell in 1453 to Islam.
- Byzantine Christians fled West bringing a storehouse of ancient writing, manuscripts, and Biblical text.

Hundred Year War Between England and France:

The Papacy being moved to France during the Avignon Papacy would serve to make English reform more palatable.



Publication of the Greek New Testament:

Desiderius Erasmus, father of humanism and internal reformer, produced the first Greek New Testament in Print.

Invention of the Printing Press (1439):

- Facilitated the ideas of the Enlightenment.
- Facilitated the distribution of Scripture.
- Facilitated a revival of learning.



The Great Reformation

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

German Augustinian monk who is known as the father of the Reformation.

Early Life:

- Neurotic obsession with his own guilt.
- Commissioned to teach study the New Testament and teach theology by Johann von Staupitz.

Discovery

While studying the book of Romans, he came upon Romans 1:17 and became convicted that the “righteousness of God” is not the righteousness by which God is righteous, but the righteousness by which he make sinners righteous.

Indulgences:



In 1516–17, Johann Tetzel, a Dominican friar and papal commissioner for indulgences, was sent to Germany by the Roman Catholic Church to sell indulgences to raise money to rebuild St. Peter's Basilica.

“When the coin in the coffer rings, a soul from Purgatory springs”

“Sobald der Gülden im Becken klingt im huy die Seel im Himmel springt ”

Nailing of 95 Thesis (1517):

Ninety-five complaints about the Church and the papacy.

Meant to bring about internal debate.

Doctrinal and moral.



6. The pope himself cannot remit guilt, but only declare and confirm that it has been remitted by God.

21. Those who preach indulgences are in error when they say that a man is absolved and saved from every penalty by the pope's indulgences.

27. There is no divine authority for preaching that the soul flies out of the purgatory immediately the money clinks in the bottom of the chest.

82. Why does not the pope liberate everyone from purgatory for the sake of love (a most holy thing) and because of the supreme necessity of their souls? This would be morally the best of all reasons.

Meanwhile he redeems innumerable souls for money, a most perishable thing, with which to build St. Peter's church, a very minor purpose.

Diet of Worms (1521)



" Unless I am convinced by proofs from Scriptures or by plain and clear reasons and arguments, I can and will not retract, for it is neither safe nor wise to do anything against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."

Reformation Theology

Five Solas of the Reformation

1. Sola Scriptura
2. Sola Fide
3. Sola Gratia
4. Solus Christus
5. Soli Deo gloria

Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone):

The Scripture is the final and only infallible source for Christian Faith and Practice.

Against: The infallibility of the pope, councils, or Tradition

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Sola Fide (Faith alone):

Faith is the only thing required of a Christian to have a right relationship with God (i.e. to be justified).

Against: any contribution that our works contribute anything to our righteousness.

Romans 3:20-22

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference.

Sola Gratia (Grace alone):

God's unmerited favor (grace) is the only basis for our salvation.

Against: any sense of meritorious acts that man might perform.

Ephesians 2:8-9

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, that no man should boast."

Solus Christus (Christ alone):

Christ is the only mediator between God and man.

Against: any priest, saint, Pope, or Mary serving as a mediator between God and man.

1 Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

Sola Deo Gloria (Christ alone):

God alone is our purpose in living and he should receive all the glory

Against: Any sense of man's attempts to glorify himself or his position.

Revelation 5:13

And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.

Field Ops

It was said that when the Black Plague was at its worst, many of the priests hid themselves in monasteries. Compare this to the attitude of the church leaders during the time of the martyrs. What has changed?

Maybe it is not the Pope, but what other sources do we put above the Scriptures in our lives? Give examples.

Martin Luther stood up against the institutionalized church of his day under the pain of excommunication. How should that inspire us to stand up for the truth of the Gospel?

What ways to be often try to “buy indulgences”. In other words, what are the outer works that we do in order to earn a standing with God?

Church History Boot Camp

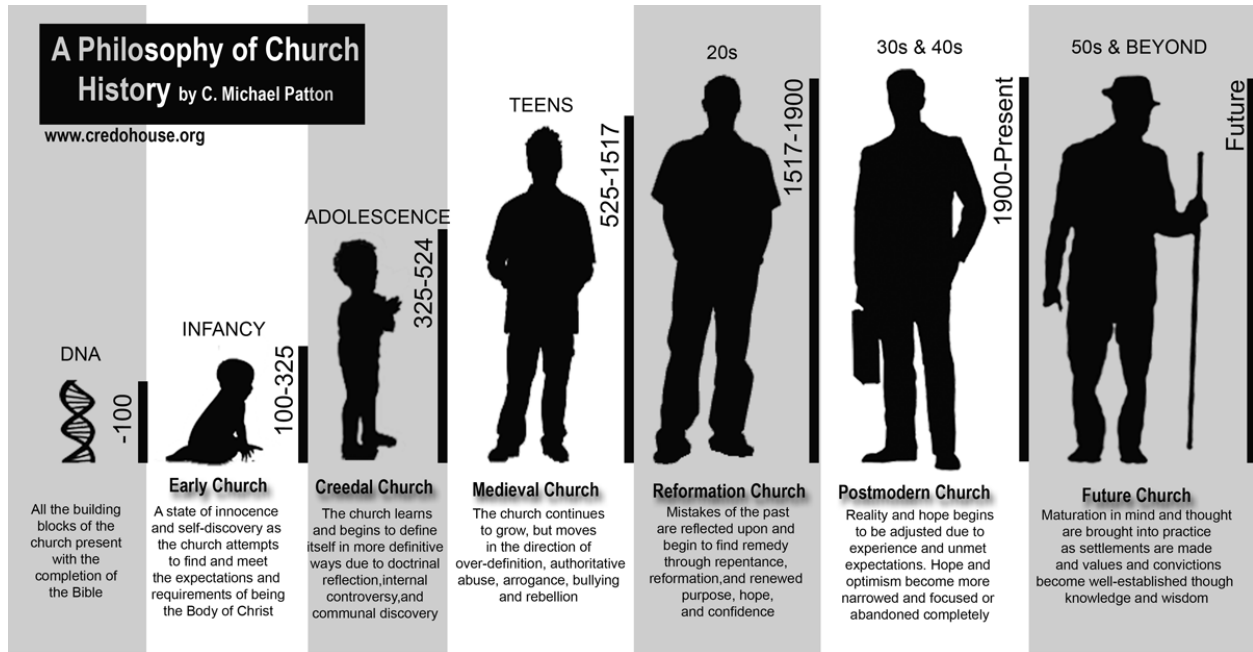
Michael Patton and Tim Kimberley
 credohouse.org | michaelp@reclaimingthemind.org

Antiquity

Modern

1650

2011



- I. Modernism
- II. Liberalism
- III. Fundamentalism
- IV. Evangelicalism
- V. Postmodernism

Modernism

Rene Descartes (1596-1650)

“Father of Modern Philosophy” who introduced the “Cartesian method” of inquiry which required indubitability (absolute certainty) in all areas of life.



congito ergo sum

“I think therefore I am”

The new Philosophy calls all in doubt,
The Element of fire is quite put out;
The Sun is lost, and th'earth, and no man's wit
Can well direct him where to look for it

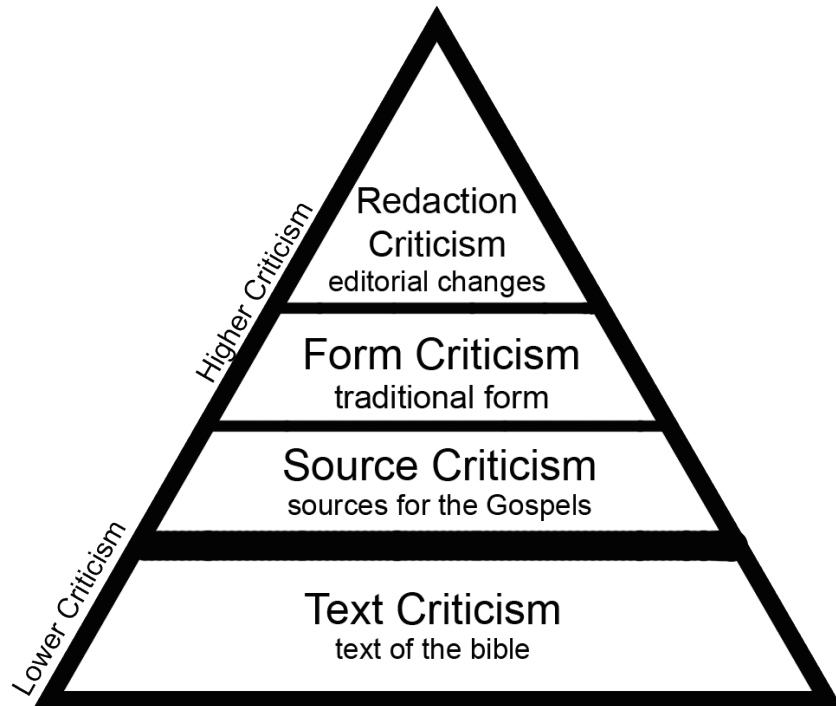
-John Donne

Doubt Everything!

Scientific Revolution

- Earth is not the center of universe; Sun is the center of the solar system
- Scientific method
- Discoveries in anatomy
- Language of mathematics and geometry
- Laws of nature discovered
- The authority of science and reason began to replace the authority of the church and Scripture

Higher Criticism: A branch of biblical studies that flourished in Germany in the 18th and 19th centuries which sought to apply the principles of the Enlightenment, scientific inquiry, and modern philosophy to the text of the Scriptures.



Demythologization:

The process most famously used by Thomas Jefferson to remove from the Bible all the elements that seemed mythological.

Quest for the Historic Jesus:

Movement in Biblical studies which sought to separate the Jesus from faith from the Jesus of history (Albert Schweitzer).

Charles Darwin

(1809-1882)

Father of Darwinian Evolution which gave people an alternative and scientific explanation for the origin of species.



Four pivotal issues for Darwin:

- Flightless birds (rhea)
- Goose with webbed feet that never went into the water
- Ichneumonidae wasp who laid its eggs in a caterpillar in a painful process
- Death of his 11-year-old daughter

“Evolution made it possible to be an intellectually satisfied atheist.”

-Richard Dawkins

Liberalism

Liberalism: A movement birthed out of modernism which sought to “save” Christianity (and religion in general) from the damage caused by modernistic thinking by adapting its essence.

Friedrich Schleiermacher

(1768-1834)

Father of Theological Liberalism who expressed his faith not as rational belief, but as a feeling of dependence on God.



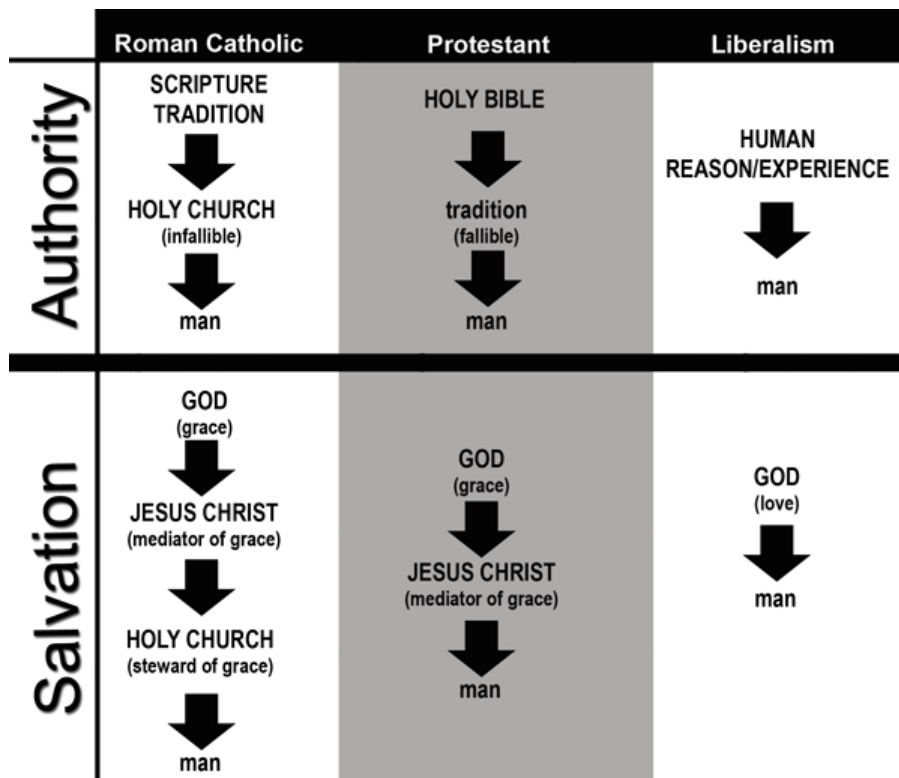
You reject the dogmas and propositions of religion.... Religion does not need them; it is only human reflection on the content of our religious feelings or affections.... Do you say that you cannot accept miracles, revelation, inspiration? You are right; we are children no longer; the time for fairy-tales is past.

-Friedrich Schleiermacher

Ecumenicalism:

Sought to bring unity to the church under the banner of moral cause rather than doctrinal creed. This movement is represented most by the World Council of Churches.

	Liberalism	Historic Christianity
Essence of Christianity	Morality	Christ redemption
Scripture	Mythology	God's word
Christ	Example to be followed	God to be worshipped
God	Love	Love and Justice
Ultimate authority	Experience and reason	Bible
Man	Essentially good	Morally fallen
Sin	Vestiges of perverse animal instincts	Rebellion against God
Salvation	Good works	Faith in Christ
Church	Concerned with world and society (Social Gospel)	Concerned with the salvation of souls.
Eschatology	No hell, all "saved"	God's judgment, Christians saved



“A God without wrath brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross.”

-H. Richard Niebuhr

“A chorus of ecumenical voices keep harping the unity tune. What they are saying is, “Christians of all doctrinal shades and beliefs must come together in one visible organization, regardless... Unite, unite!” Such teaching is false, reckless and dangerous. Truth alone must determine our alignments. Truth comes before unity.”

-Charles H. Spurgeon (The Essence of Separation, quoted in The Berean Call, July, 1992, p. 4)

Fundamentalism

Fundamentalism: A movement in the early 21st century which sought to rescue Christianity from liberalism, restoring and defending the fundamental creeds of the Christian faith.



The Fundamentals, published from 1915-1920, was a monumental work of 90 essays contained in twelve volumes. Drawing from dozens of authors including James Orr, B.B. Warfield, and G. Camble Morgan, these essays defended the essence---the Fundamentals---of the Christian faith against the threat of Liberalism.

Old Schools

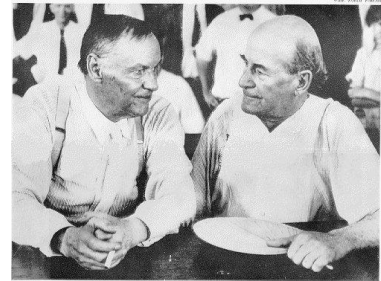
Princeton (1746; Presbyterian)
Harvard (1636; Calvinist)
Yale (1701; Calvinist)
Dartmouth (1769; Congregationalist)
Brown (1746; Baptist)

New Schools

Wheaton College (1860)
Westminster Theological Seminary (1929)
Dallas Theological Seminary (1924)
Fuller Theological Seminary (1947)

Scopes Money Trial (1925):

A nationally publicized trial which shaped and defined Fundamentalism as an anti-intellectual “back-woods” religion that resisted scientific reality in favor of cultish beliefs.



The State of Tennessee v. Scopes

Prosecutor
William Jennings

Bryan

Three time presidential candidate and fundamentalist Christian

Plaintiff
John Scopes

Accused of teaching evolution in the classroom

Defense
Clarence Darrow

ACLU agnostic attorney famous for his defense of thrill killers in their murder of 14-year-old Bobby Franks

Outcome

Court:
Guilty: Fined \$100

Public Opinion:
Innocent

Williams Jennings Bryan disappeared from public life and died in his sleep five days after winning the verdict.

Fundamentalism disappeared from culture and died in the court of influence.

- No tolerance for any compromise.
- Became defined more by non-essential morals than doctrines.
- Don't drink, don't smoke, don't dance, and don't play cards, don't go to movies.
- Left the Universities and started their own schools.
- Became separatists and "cultish Christianity"; "A holy nation". No longer a "kingdom of priests".

Evangelicalism

Evangelicalism (American): A movement in conservative Christianity in responding to the treats of Liberalism and Fundamentalism which sought to engage culture with the Gospel without compromising the essentials.

"Orthodoxy gone cultic."

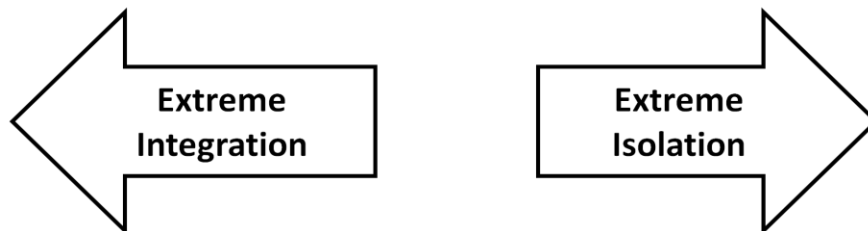
-Edward J. Carnell

third way (*tertium quid*)

Liberalism

Evangelicalism

Fundamentalism



"Our New York Campaign has been challenged by some extremists on two points. First as to sponsorship, I would like to make myself clear. I intend to go anywhere, sponsored by anybody, to preach the Gospel of Christ, if there are no strings attached to my message. I am sponsored by civic clubs, universities, ministerial associations and councils of churches all over the world. I intend to continue" (Christian Beacon, April 4, 1957).



Postmodernism

Stage of Truth

