



# Constantine

 Constantine believed that the Roman Empire had become too big and disorganized to be managed as one Empire. So he split it into two halves. The eastern half became the Byzantine Empire. The capital of the eastern portion of the Roman Empire, the Byzantine Empire, became Constantinople [330AD], while the capital of the western Roman Empire remained Rome.

# Constantine

- The Byzantine Empire (the Eastern Roman Empire) was distinct from the Western Roman Empire in several ways: most importantly, the Byzantines were Christians and spoke Greek instead of Latin.
- The founder of the Byzantine Empire and its first Emperor, Constantine the Great, moved the capital of the Roman Empire to the city of Byzantium in <u>330 CE</u> and renamed it Constantinople.

# Constantine

- The Byzantine Empire outlasted the rest of the Roman Empire by nearly <u>1000</u> years. It didn't collapse until <u>1453</u>, when it was defeated by the Ottoman Turks.
- The western Roman Empire fell in 476 AD.

# Constantine

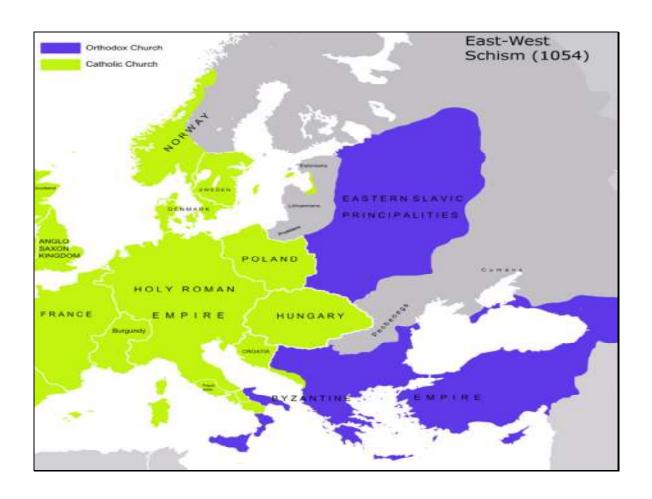
- Constantine the Great also <u>legalized Christianity</u>, which had previously been persecuted in the Roman Empire. Christianity would become a major element of Byzantine culture.
- Constantinople became the largest city in the empire and a major commercial center while the Western Roman Empire fell in 476 CE.

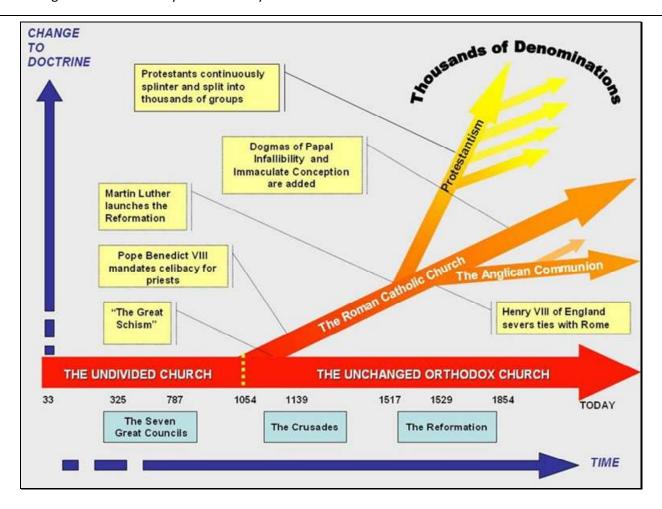
# **TOURS 732**

- At the Battle of Tours near Poitiers, France, Frankish leader <u>Charles Martel</u>, a Christian, defeats a large army of Spanish Moors, halting the Muslim advance into Western Europe.
- His **grandson Charlemagne** carved out a vast empire that stretched across Europe.

# Charlemagne

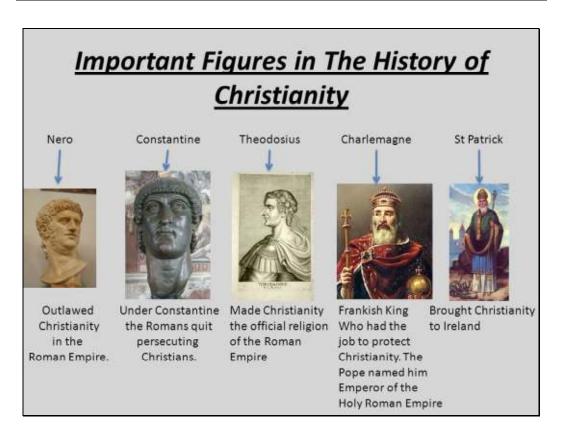
- Charlemagne (c.742-814), also known as Karl and Charles the Great, was a medieval emperor who ruled much of Western Europe from 768 to 814.
- When the people of western Europe awoke on December 26, 800, they had an emperor again.
   On Christmas Day, as King Charles of France knelt in prayer before the altar of the church of St.
   Peter's in Rome, Pope Leo III suddenly placed a golden crown on his head.

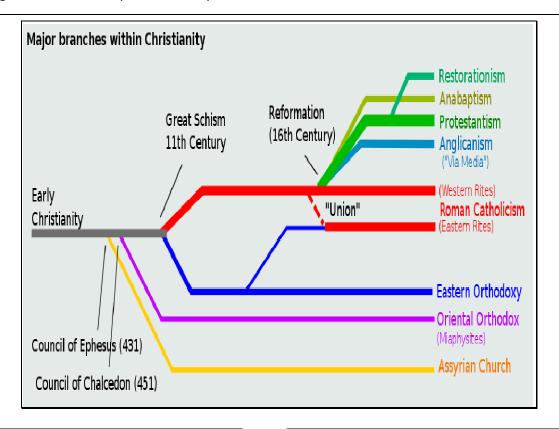




1 <sup>st</sup> 7 Ecumenical Councils				
1 <sup>st</sup> Nicaea	325			
1 <sup>st</sup> Constantinople	381			
Council Ephesus	431			
Council Chalcedon	451			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Constantinople	553			
3 <sup>rd</sup> Constantinople	680-681			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nicaea	787			

Council	Issue	Bad Guy	Good Guy	Outcome
Nicea 325 AD	Eternal Deity of Christ	Arius Christ is a Created Being	Athanasius Christ is God	Eternal Deity of Christ Affirmed Nicene Creed
Costantinople 381 AD	Person of Christ	Apollinarius Christ is Divine Logos but not human spirit	Gregory of Nestansius	Complete Humanity of Christ Affirrmed Nicene Creed Affirmed
Ephesus 431 AD	Person of Christ	Nestorius Against the Deity of Christ	Cyril of Alexandria	Complete Deity of Christ Affirmed Nicene Creed Affirmed
Chalcedon 451 AD	Person of Christ	Eutyches Christ is a "tertium quid" A third unique nature	Flavian of Constantinople and Leo of Rome	Two Natures of Christ Affirmed (Human Nature and Divine Nature)





## MONO-

 Monophysitism is an error concerning the nature of Christ that asserts Jesus had only one nature and not two as is taught in the correct doctrine of the hypostatic union: Jesus is both God and man in one person. In monophysitism, the single nature was divine and not human.

## MONO/MIA-

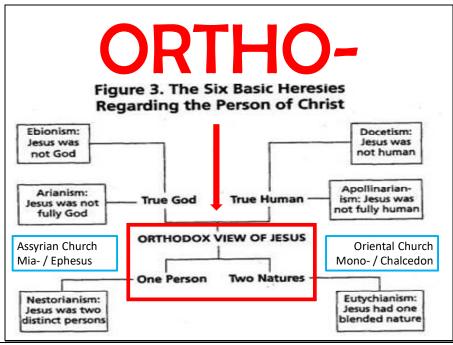
 Historically, Chalcedonian Christians have considered Miaphysitism in general to be [agreeable] to an orthodox interpretation, but they have nevertheless perceived the Miaphysitism of the non-Chalcedonians to be a form of Monophysitism.

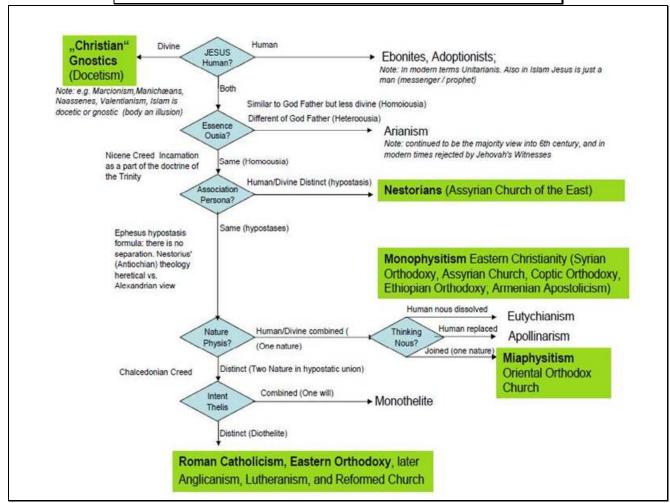
#### MIA-

• Miaphysitism is a Christological formula of the Oriental Orthodox Churches. Miaphysitism holds that in the one person of Jesus Christ, Divinity and Humanity are united in one nature, the two being united without separation, without confusion, and without alteration.

## MONO/MIA-

 The Oriental Orthodox Churches themselves reject this characterization. They prefer the term non-Chalcedonians.





## COPTIC

 "Coptic" means "Egyptian," and Christians living in Egypt identify themselves as Coptic Christians. As a denomination they originated in the city of Alexandria, one of the most faithful, respected, and fruitful cities during the Apostolic Period.

# **GREEK**

The name Greek Orthodox Church or Greek
 Orthodoxy, is a term referring to the body of
 several Churches within the larger communion of
 Eastern Orthodox Christianity, whose liturgy is or
 was traditionally conducted in Koine Greek, the
 original language of the New Testament, and
 whose history, traditions, and theology are rooted
 in the early Church Fathers and the culture of the
 Byzantine Empire.

## ROMAN

 Another thing that people often confuse is the difference between a "rite" and a "church". The churches above are NOT rites; instead they each practice a rite. A rite is a liturgical patrimony: it is the way in which a church worships. There are primarily six different rites within the Catholic church (with many variations within the different churches).

## **EASTERN**

 The nature of the Eastern Orthodox Church is conciliar rather than monarchical. That is, the patriarchs all hold equal authority in the Church and there is no centralized headquarters from which jurisdiction is maintained. Because the Ecumenical Patriarch—believed to be the first in honor among Orthodox patriarchs—is the Patriarch of Constantinople, Istanbul may be considered the spiritual center of the Orthodox communities.

## **RUSSIAN**

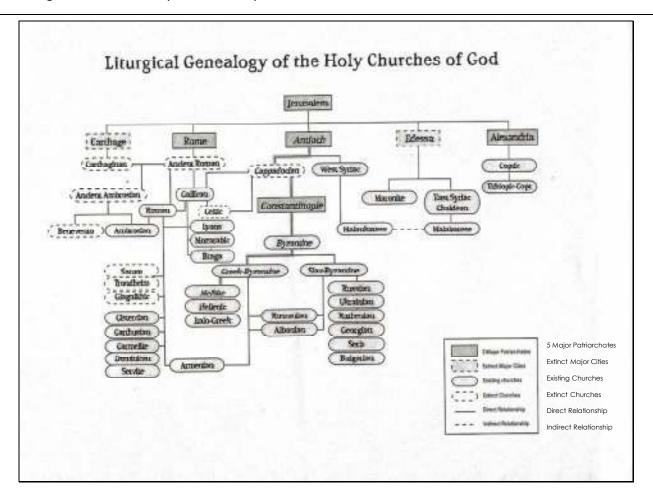
 The Russian Orthodox Church, part of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

## ROMAN

- There are currently 23 *sui juris* churches that make up the Catholic Church.
- 22 of these 23 churches are Eastern churches; only the Latin church is Western. But the primary reason most people don't know about all these Eastern churches is that the Latin Catholic church makes up 98% of all Catholics worldwide.

## EASTERN

 The Orthodox Church is not a single church but rather a family of 13 "autocephalous," or selfgoverning, churches. They are united in their understanding of the sacraments, doctrine, liturgy, and church government, but each administers its own affairs.



# **EASTERN**

- •The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed
- http://www.antiochian.org/674



#### The Division of Christianity Roman Catholics & Eastern Orthodox Christians practice their religions differently: **Eastern Orthodox** Roman Catholic **Similarities** Services are Services are conducted in They base their faith Greek or local languages. conducted in Latin. on the gospel of Jesus and the Bible. The patriarch and other The pope has bishops head the Church authority over all They use sacraments other bishops. as a group, such as baptism. The pope claims The emperor dains authority over all kings and emperors. Their religious authority over the patriarch leaders are priests and other bishops of the and bishops. empere. Priests may not many. They seek to convert Priests may be married. Divorce is not people. permitted. Divorce is allowed under certain conditions.

