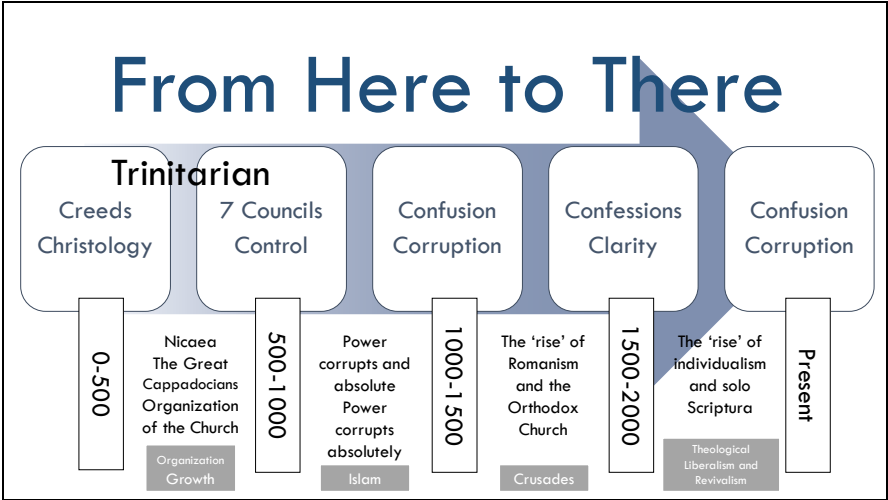


CHURCH HISTORY

THE GREAT CAPPADOCIANS & THE COUNCIL OF CONSTANTINOPLE



Significance Of Nicaea

1. Nicaea was the first ecumenical or universal council.
2. Nicaea was an assembly conscious of its uniqueness.

Significance Of Nicaea

3. Nicaea served as a symbol of imperial involvement in church affairs.
4. The age of persecution was over and the age of Christendom – Christianity as a religion favored by government – had begun.

Christendom v. Christianity
 Christianity v. Christians
 State v. Church
 [national church]

Significance Of Nicea

5. Nicea marked a crucial development in doctrinal history.
6. The use of nonbiblical language in the Nicene Creed was not so great in significance as many then and since have thought.

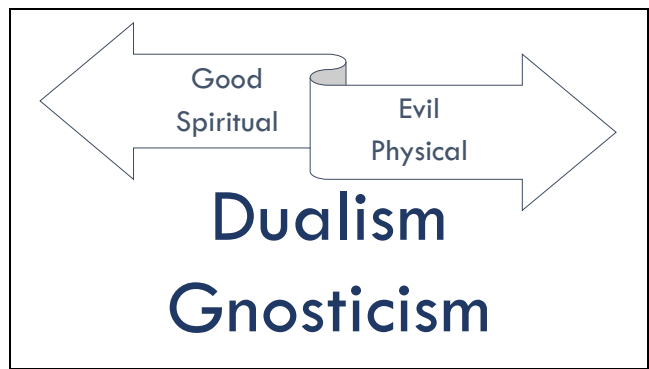
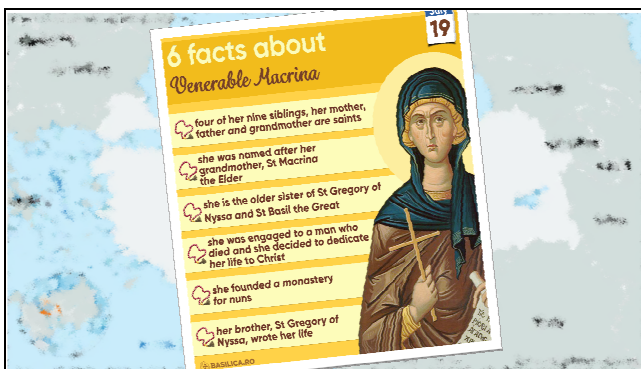
Significance Of Nicaea

7. What was new at Nicaea was putting a nonbiblical term in a creed, enforced by anathemas.

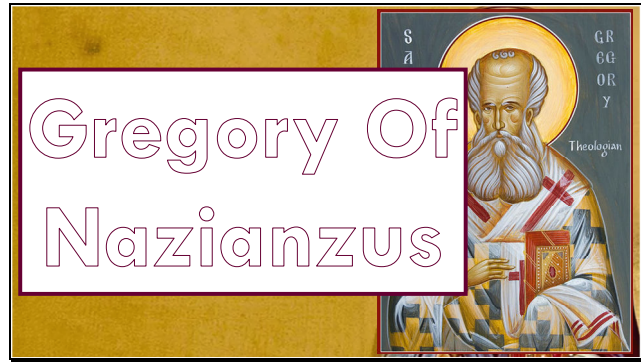
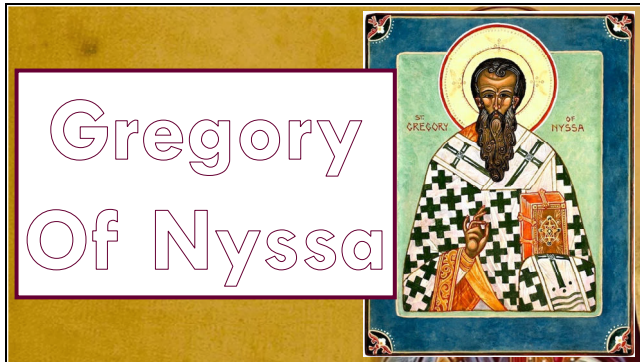
Instead of being only a confession of faith, the creed of Nicaea became **a test of fellowship.**

Are there 'benchmarks' we should guard?
When do we draw the line?

1. Is biblical inerrancy a line?
2. Is penal substitution a line?
3. Is annihilationism or universalism a line?



The Six Basic Heresies Regarding the Person of Christ			
<u>Ebionism</u> Jesus was not God	True God	True Human	<u>Docetism</u> Jesus was not human
<u>Arianism</u> Jesus was not fully God	ORTHODOX VIEW OF JESUS		<u>Apollinarianism</u> Jesus was not fully human
<u>Nestorianism</u> Jesus was two distinct persons	One Person	Two Natures	<u>Eutychianism</u> Jesus had one blended nature



- The Council of Constantinople
- Called by Emperor Theodosius in 381
 - Not immediately recognized as ecumenical
 - Affirmed the Nicene Creed

- The Council of Constantinople
- Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed
 - Theodosius's edicts made the Nicene Orthodoxy the official religion of the Roman Empire

- Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed
- We believe in one God the Father All-sovereign, Maker of heaven and earth, and a of all things visible and invisible;
 - And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all the ages,

- Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed
- Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten not made, of one substance with the Father, through whom all things were made; and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate and suffered and was buried, and rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures,

Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed

- and ascended into the heavens, and sits on the right hand of the Father and comes again with glory to judge living and dead, of whose kingdom there shall be no end;

Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed

- And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and the Life-Giver, that proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and Son is worshipped together and glorified together, who spoke through the prophets;

Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed

- In one holy catholic and apostolic church;
- We acknowledge one baptism unto remission of sins; we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.
- The Anathemas of the 1st Council of Constantinople
- The Anathemas of the 2nd Council of Constantinople



Organization of the Church

- Bishops - Presbyters (Elders/Priests)
- Deacons - Sub-deacons
- Acolytes – Exorcists
- Readers – Doorkeepers - Widows

Organization of the Church

- Councils
- Statements Of Faith = Symbols, Dogmas
- Administrative = Canons
- Celibacy - Priestly Garments - Monasticism

