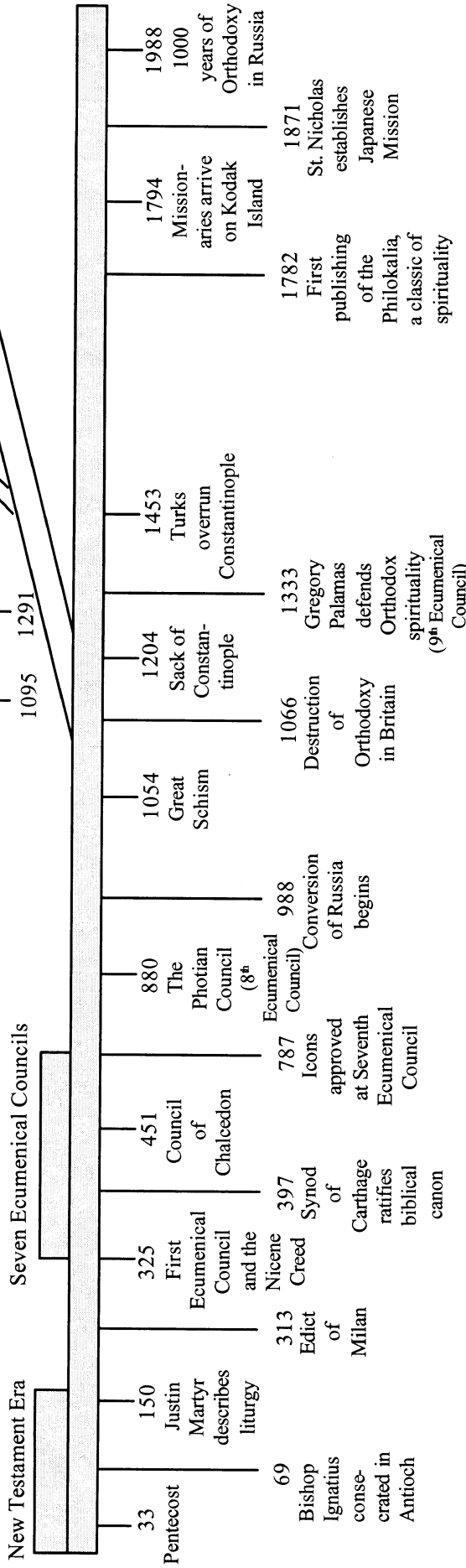


A Timeline of Church History

Timeline of Church History

Tracing the birth and continuity of the Orthodox Church from Pentecost to the present where the four Patriarchs remain in tact, in full communion, maintaining the Orthodox Apostolic Faith of the inspired New Testament.



- 33 Pentecost
- 49 Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15) establishes precedent for addressing Church disputes in Council. James presides as bishop
- 69 Bishop Ignatius consecrated in Antioch in heart of New Testament era – St. Peter had been the first bishop there. Other early bishops include James, Polycarp, and Clement.
- 95 Book of Revelations written, probably the last of the New Testament books
- 150 St. Justin Martyr describes the liturgical worship of the Church, centered in the Eucharist Liturgical worship rooted in both Old & New Testament
- 313 The Edict of Milan marks an end to the period of Roman persecution of Christianity
- 325 The Council of Nicea settles the major heretical challenge to the Christian Faith posed when the heretic Arius asserts Christ was created by the Father St. Athanasius defends the eternity of the Son of God. Nicea is the first of Seven Ecumenical (Church-wide) Councils.
- 451 Council of Chalcedon affirms apostolic doctrine of two natures in Christ
- 787 The Seventh Council restores the centuries-old use of icons to the Church
- 988 Conversion of Rus' (Russia) begins

- 1054 The Great Schism occurs. Two major issues include Rome's claim to a universal papal supremacy and her addition of the filioque clause to the Nicene Creed. Photian Council (880) defends the Orthodox position
- 1066 Norman conquest Britain. Orthodox hierarchs are replaced with those loyal to Rome
- 1095 The Crusades begun by the Roman Church. The Sack of Constantinople (1204) adds to the estrangement between East and West
- 1333 S. Gregory Palamas defends the Orthodox practice of hesychast spirituality and the use of the Jesus prayer (9th Ecumenical Council)
- 1453 Turks overrun Constantinople; Byzantine Empire ends
- 1517 Martin Luther nails his 95 Theses to the door of the Roman Church in Wittenberg, starting the Protestant Reformation
- 1529 Church of England begins pulling away from Rome
- 1794 Missionaries arrive on Kodiak Island in Alaska; Orthodoxy introduce to North America
- 1870 Papal Infallibility becomes Roman dogma
- 1988 One thousand years of Orthodoxy in Russia, as Orthodox Church worldwide maintains fullness of Apostolic Faith

A Timeline of Church History

AGE OF THE APOSTLES

AGE OF PERSECUTION



The Church continues to thrive in spite of persecution...

33 A.D.
Death and Resurrection of Christ, the Son of God.
Pentecost: Birthday of the Church

65 A.D.
Apostles Peter and Paul martyred in Rome.

99 A.D.
Last Apostle, John, dies in Ephesus.

Christians were persecuted sporadically until about 313 A.D., under Roman emperors such as Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, Decius, and Diocletian.

43 A.D.
Apostle James martyred in Jerusalem.

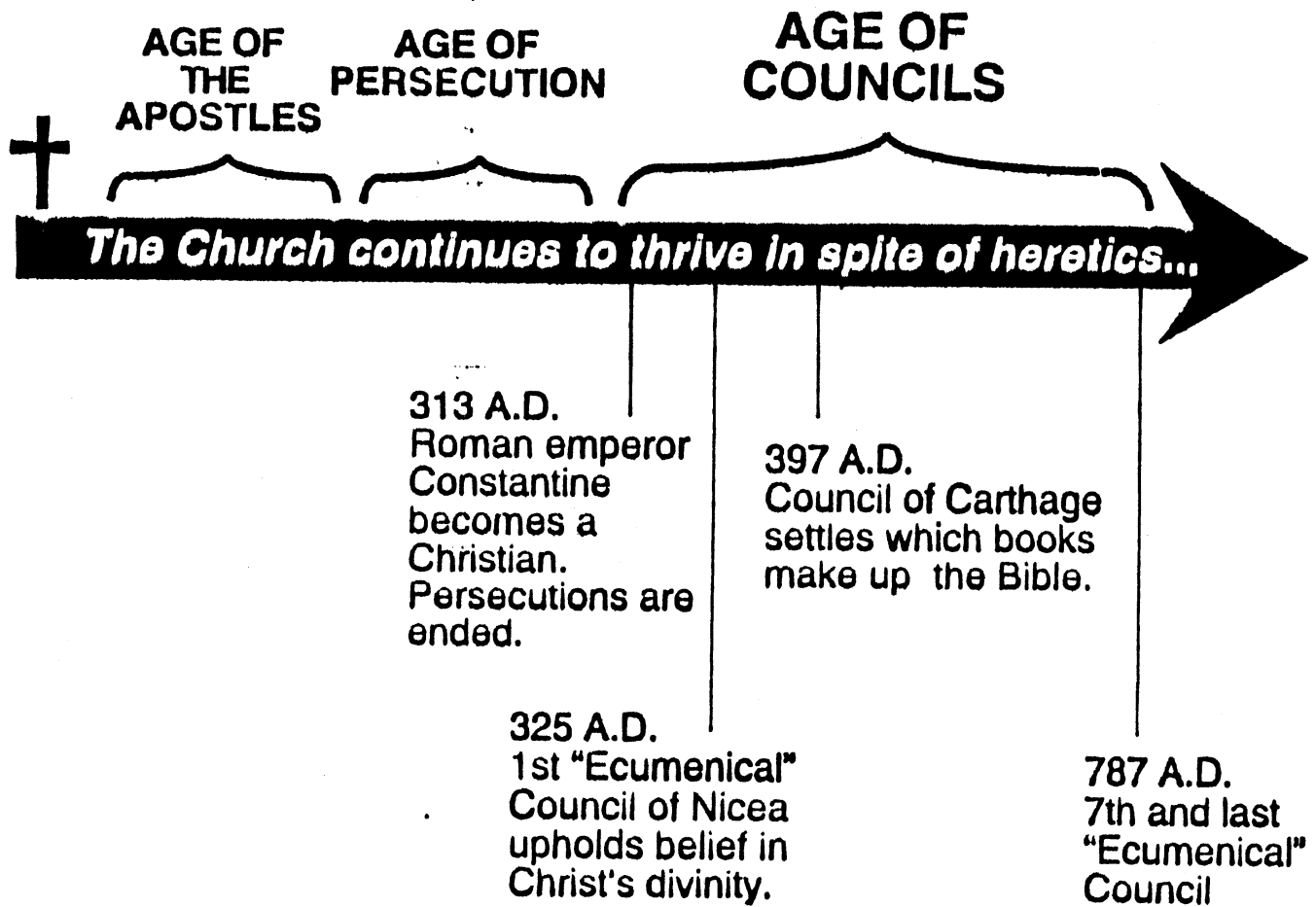
92 A.D.
Clement is Bishop of Rome. His letter to the Corinthian Church still exists.

150 A.D.
Justin the Martyr writes a detailed account of early Christian worship.

69 A.D.
Ignatius becomes Bishop of Antioch.

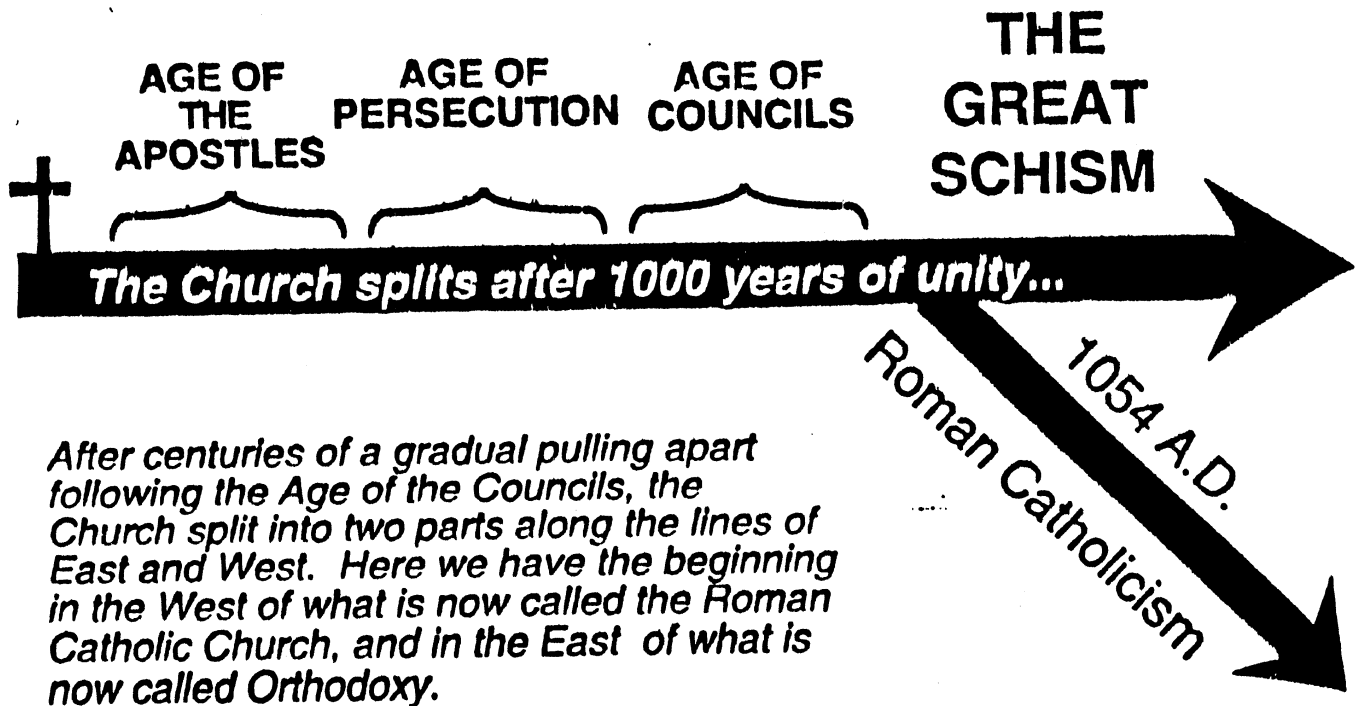
107 A.D.
Ignatius martyred in Rome. Seven of his letters still exist.

A Timeline of Church History



During this time seven "Ecumenical" Councils were held to defend and uphold the true belief of the Church about Jesus Christ.

A Timeline of Church History



After centuries of a gradual pulling apart following the Age of the Councils, the Church split into two parts along the lines of East and West. Here we have the beginning in the West of what is now called the Roman Catholic Church, and in the East of what is now called Orthodoxy.

A Timeline of Church History: The Protestant Reformation

One very convincing proof that it was in the West that the greatest deviation from the faith of the early Church had taken place can be found in the Protestant Reformation. It was an attempt to rediscover something that had been lost, but little agreement could be found as to what that "something" was. So instead of reform there occurred only more, drastic division, and the Western church fractured into hundreds of denominations.

