

**PROJECTED
OVERVIEW**

D. An Overview of the Total Study. In this we will discuss the matter of periods of time and will offer some summary charts on the periods. The idea is that here you can see something of the total picture.

1. Periodization We have already indicated that our approach is one of horizontal or period study rather than vertical or subject study. That is an important matter to be born in mind.

How to
recognize
a period.

a. The Question is: how do you start or stop a period? It is not easily answered but generally a period is marked by a change of thought in the direction of the body...signalled by the climactic enactments of some point that readdresses the direction of the thinking of a group or of the total body.

b. Various periods are thereby suggested by different scholars. Note these:

(1) Seeberg (note bibliographic notes) see three major periods:

Seeberg's
Periods.

--Construction of doctrine in the ancient church, post-apostolic to Augustine.

--Middle ages..the preservation, transformation and development of doctrine.

--Reformation to the present and the opposing crystallization of Protestant and Roman doctrinal bodies.

Pelikan's
Periods

(2) Pelikan allows five periods, two of which are contemporary but reflect varied parts of the community..

100 to 600. --Emergence of Catholic Tradition...

600-1700 --Spirit of Eastern Christendom..-

--Growth of Mediaeval Theology 600-1300
--Reformation of Church and Dogma.-.

1300-1700 --Christian Doctrine and Modern Culture, since 1700.

Course
Periods

(3) Periods seen in this course:

--Ante-Nicene (to 325)

--Conciliar (to 1215)

--Scholastic (to 1500)

--Reformation (to 1688)

--Modern (to yesterday)

Since these are matters of convenience, not revelation, we do not have to urge conformity.