

council action but it now seems plain that the western synod really did not have a clear presentation of what Nicea had been about.

4. Contributions:

To Theology Proper there was a clarification on the reality of the body of Jesus in the assertion that it indeed existed and associated emblems with it do not constitute idolatry (including the bread and the wine.) IN Ecclesiology the power of the bishops is enhanced and the church becomes more and more or an hierarchial society.

The Eighth Ecumenical Council:

H. The Eighth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople 869, 879

Constantinople IV  
869, 879

1. Background

The council was largely an attempt by the leading Christian centers to "clear the air." It pronounced no new dogma and involved the Roman Bishop and the Patriarch in Constantinople in a dispute over the priority of Bishops. The first meeting was cominated by Rome and the east was unhappy with the outcome...the second was dominated by the east and Rome was ;unhappy with the outcome. In the second phase of the council, however, it was agreed to annul the general concuments of both sessions and the two meetings effectively cancelled each other

*Filioque = argument of how H.S. comes*

- Western Church* (a) From the F. and the Son (=filioque)
- (b) From the F. (Greek Church)

I. Continuing Movements

The Conciliar ideal does not die at this point and will be revived in the 15th century with some interest. But for the next 400 years it moves into a more limited perspective. The eastern councils will be held in the "Trullan" section of Constantinople and the western councils will be convened in various parts of the Vatican..often the Lateran palace and will be called the Lateran councils. The decisions of these bodies will be largely local, however and will not do much to mold the thinking of the total church. Roman Catholic doctrines come very heavily from the Lateran Councils and most of what we think of as distinctively Roman comes from this latter period.

Beyond the Ecumenical Councils

K. Summary of Doctrinal expression in the Conciliar Period. A chart is appended for this purpose and it should be on the next page:

Summary of the Period