

The portion of the western world thought of as civilized became "Christian" and the edicts of the councils were enforced by the state. The major problems were from heresies within and the major emphasis was in theology proper and Christology. The use of the creed as a binding statement comes from this period and the major ecumenical statements of the church are founded in this time. The political intrigues of the government found their ways into the church and the period begins to show how popularity ruins the testimony.

The second phase of the age (450-800) shows a setting in which the governmental world is in crisis and flux. The church is by far the most stable organization on the scene and so many of the duties of government fall upon it. There is a challenge by barbarian forces round about and the church begins to develop an increased sense of mission. The chief theological areas are in soteriology and pneumatology.

In the third phase (800-1054), world governments return although not on the grand scale of ancient Rome though some may have offered pretensions that were grandiose. There is an intrigue in church/state relationships that is hardly believable in our day and much more of the church has resorted to monasticism as a way of life. There is less need for apologetic (save in the east where the church must contend with the Islamic thinkers) and most of the theological interest in the body is in the continuing pneumatology area with a fair amount of ecclesiastical study including the sacraments and earlier forms of sacramental theology.

The latter two portions of the conciliar age are confusing due to the presence of the Dark Ages and the educational blight that exists through much of them. Although there are small academic moves in various places, they are minimal in terms of the total sphere and there is not much light to be seen on any side.

A chart for this age is on page 13.

### c. The Scholastic Period

The age gets its name from the rebirth of scholastic interest as monastic thinkers become increasingly involved in the problems of life, on one hand, and the progress of the ancients, on the other. During this age we see the development of mediaeval humanism and the movement known as the Renaissance.

The period is divided into three segments, pre-scholastic, (1070-1250) high scholastic (1250-1350), and post scholastic (1350-1500). These are my terms and I am not very satisfied with them so one should not be surprised if alternate terms are suggested in the study! The period was marked

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