

d. Later councils activities

Following 1054 and the division of the eastern and western church, councils in the west were generally held in or around the Vatican (the Lateran palace) and those in the east in the Trullan section of the Patriarchal court.

Several attempts were made to revive the conciliar practices...the most notable those that began with the Council of Constance in 1416 and the first of these were imperial councils while beginning with the Council of Trent the remainder were papal councils.

At their best the councils defined and discussed, at their worst they argued and pontificated in areas where Biblical authority was lacking and the wicked ambitions of greedy men most apparent.

3. The Church Politic... just off hand it would seem strange that the body given meaning by the Scriptures would be a detrimental force to the authority of the Scripture. But that is not the only strange thing in a course such as this.

a. The Emphasis on Ecclesiastical Authority

(1) The contribution of Augustine...very general

(2) The contribution of the Cappadocians
(to see the Eastern side of the matter)

b. Growth of the Papal Office

Two charts are offered on page 49 telling a bit of the growth of Roman authority. In addition to those we will mention, but only briefly:

(1) Gregory I

(2) Gregory VII

(3) Innocent III

(4) Boniface VIII