

what we cannot. It does not satisfy the curiosity but it should be enough for the intellect and for the heart.

#### Concluding the Great Councils

Coming to the conclusion of the study of the great councils we may summarize the following:

--They are extremely important for their doctrine defining statements. The student should know what they are, how they occurred, as well as the resultant issues.

--Like other works, the councils easily became means of self-advancement. Look for a lesson in this and try to profit by it.

--And the more fragmented a community is, the harder it is to resolve problems. When we can avoid polarization it is much easier to solve problems.

--The canons of the great council become a field of study in church polity and practice. The material of these and succeeding councils is huge and to become a master of it is quite a job and something of a labyrinth of men's opinions with less attention to Scripture than we would prefer.

#### IV.2.b Promoters of Dissent

#### Promoters of Dissent

Just a few notes on dissenters of various sorts with some observations on the things that are most harmful to the church. We have discussed some of them in considerable length and will not repeat that discussion. You should remember with some detail:

Arius  
Apollinaris  
Nestorius  
Pelagius  
Dioscurus  
Eutyches

and while all of these are not of the same value or have even the same "guilt", their foibles are those that continue to harm the testimony even to this day.

In addition note the circumstances: