

D. The Theological Schisms

1. Nestorianism

Following the council of Ephesus, Nestorius moved to Asia and continued his "ordination rites" with the establishment of churches that would later bear his name. Some still remain in India and Iran.

The schism, however, was one in which the issue was difficult to perceive and thus had no impact in the western churches and not much in the other eastern churches.

2. Monophysitism

The body of churches that withdrew from the political community was small but violent. The esoteric nature of the issue did not attract a lot of followers and the violent nature repulsed many.

3. Arianism

I debated including it at this point but there continued following Nicaea some churches that taught an official Arian creed and were thus outside the established body. Much of this (or many of these) were the result of the mission work of Ulfilus..an Arian thinker who was instrumental in the conversion of several of the Gothic tribes...and some of the Vandal community as well. We are not sure how well informed he was in theological perspective and will mention more about him in our discussion of missions (next class)

E. The Great Schism

This refers to the division between the Roman and Greek churches that occurred in 1054 AD and effectively split the bulk of the Christian community into two segments. I can discuss it fragmentarily on these lines:

1. The Causes..I will enumerate five or so in proper historic perspective
2. The big Moment: Leo and Michael