

d. Education:

Orthodoxy, having state support, served as an educational leader in the east even in the period of the dark ages. Its work, however, tended not to be creative but more a continuation of the tradition or the established ideology. The west in time would excel because it had to be inventive and creative to survive.

e. Divisions:

--Early: the Monophysite

--Later: the National Churches

f. Particular Problems:

--the Bogomiles

--the Paulicians

6. Summary

To understand orthodoxy in any sort of complete way you will need a lot more material than this. The best modern writer in the field (known to me) is Meyendorf who has several works on the subject. A visit to one of the local Orthodox churches would also prove helpful. They are very liturgical and have more in common with Rome than with protestantism. The Orthodox accept the Apocrypha as Scripture..although theirs is not identical with the Roman Apocrypha. Lots of special feasts and holidays and the widespread use of icons. The tradition is pretty rigid and you will need to remember a general principle that applies to them and to us as well..the more rigid the tradition, the less tolerance of anything that seems contrary. It is ironic that it is the tradition that gets this place rather than the essential truth itself.

In the present ecumenical sphere of things..but that is also another course..how do we keep getting into these things?