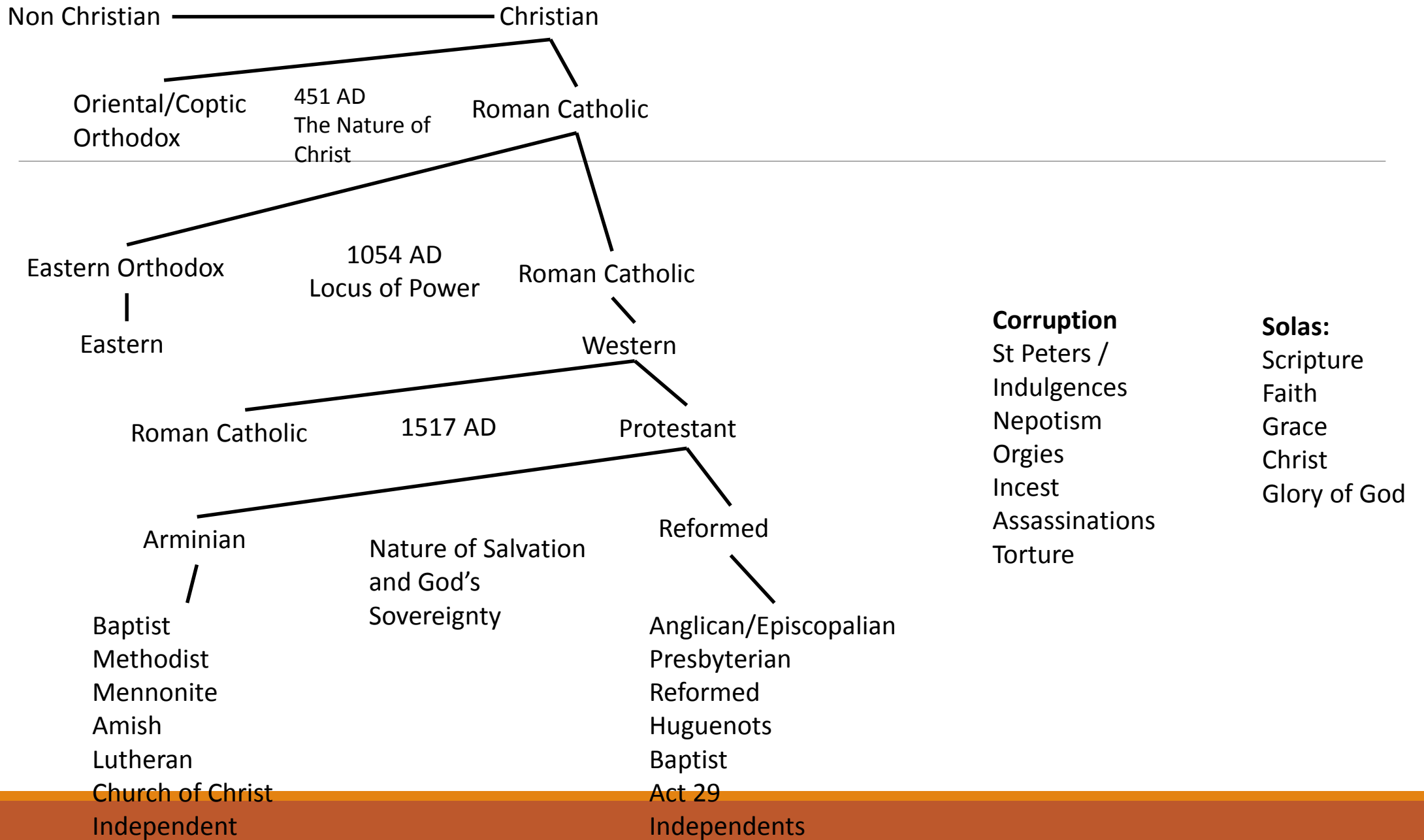


The Church

THE HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM ON EARTH



Our Common usage of the word “Church”

1) The Church

- The building at 3000 Grove Avenue

2) Going to Church

- Participating in corporate worship on Sunday

Uses of the word Church in the N.T.

There are at least 5 uses of the word Church in the New Testament and they all have reference to People. Not one usage related to buildings or Worship

The Invisible Church

The whole body of the faithful on earth, in heaven, or in the mind of God, who are or shall be spiritually united to Christ as their Saviour.

The Elect

The Bride of Christ

The Body of Christ

The Dwelling place of the Holy Spirit

The Visible Church

The visible church consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion; and of their children.

Known by their profession and practice

Maybe in the visible Church and not the invisible church and vice versa.

Not to be looked at as 2 different Churches but as one Church seen from 2 different aspects.

Local Church

A group of believers in a particular place that regularly gather for worship

This is probably the most common use the Paul's Letters

This is probably where we get the idea of worship as church

Regional Church

A group of Local Churches under one regional government

The Church at Jerusalem

Ephesus, Corinth, Colossae, Rome

5th meaning of the word Church?

Jesus' moral teaching not as radical as we sometimes think.

Many common words in the NT are given spiritual meaning.

The use of the word Synagogue

5th meaning of the word Church?

Ekklesia only appears 2 times in the gospels.

Matthew 16:18 - And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. (ESV)

5th meaning of the word Church?

Matthew 18:15-17 - If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the **church**. And if he refuses to listen even to the **church**, let him be to you as a **Gentile** and a tax collector. (ESV)

5th meaning of the word Church!

The Elders of the Church gather to Rule on behalf of the people are referred to as the Church

5 Uses of the Word Church

- 1) The Invisible Church
- 2) The Visible Church
- 3) The Local Church
- 4) The Regional Church
- 5) The Elders of the Church