

Comparative Religion II
EASTERN ORTHODOX



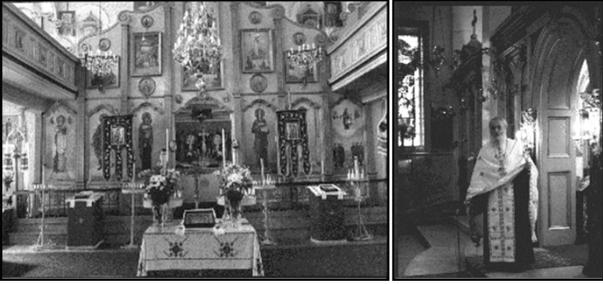

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Saint Sophia's Church, Los Angeles



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Interior of an Orthodox Church and a Priest



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A Bishop and Orthodox Procession



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Beginning of the Liturgy



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ORTHODOX CHURCHES

Orthodox Church

Patriarchate of Constantinople	
Patriarchate of Alexandria	Patriarchate of Antioch
Russian Orthodox Church	Serbian Orthodox Church
Romanian Orthodox Church	Bulgarian Orthodox Church
Greek Orthodox Church	Polish Orthodox Church
Georgian Orthodox Church	Orthodox Church of Czechs and Slovaks
Archbishopric of Sinai	Orthodox Church of Finland
Albanian Orthodox Church	Belarussian Orthodox Church
Orthodox Church of America(OCA)	Estonian Orthodox Church
Ukrainian Orthodox Church	Latvian Orthodox Church

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ORTHODOX CHURCH BUILDINGS

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ORTHODOX ICONOSTASIS

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ORTHODOX ICONOSTASIS

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ORTHODOX ICONOSTASIS

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Patriarch Bartholomew of Istanbul

Considered first among equals

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Two Archbishops

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BACKGROUND

FOUNDER – Jesus Christ in 33 AD; Officially separated from Catholics in 1054 AD.

GOD – Is a Trinity. Three individuals of one essence, co-eternal. God is a mystery.

SCRIPTURES – Holy Bible and Tradition – do not accept the Apocryphal books as Scripture

HISTORY – Believe they are the true church and that Catholics veered off from them. Became dominated by the State and consequently did not grow as rapidly as Catholics

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BACKGROUND

ORGANIZATION – In ethnic groupings with hierarchal form of government

CREED – Nicene Creed is used dating from 325 AD

SALVATION – The soul goes to an intermediate state for what it will receive at the judgment and resurrection – either paradise or hell

THE BUILDINGS – Laid out in the form of a cross. Decorated to give impression of “heaven on earth”. Is the body of believers and One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic.

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Three Historical Periods

Classical – First six centuries

Byzantine – 650 – 1453

Modern – 1453 - present

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Orthodox/Catholic Split

Catholics and Eastern Orthodox were together as the main Christian religion until they split in 1054 AD.

The two churches split over the “filioque” clause added by the Church at Rome in the Nicene Creed. The clause had to do with the procession of the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox said the Holy Spirit came only from the Father. The Catholics added “and the Son” to the creed indicating the procession was from both.

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THE NICENE CREED (325 AD)

- I. I Believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
- II. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made.
- III. Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven; and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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THE NICENE CREED (325 AD)

- IV. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried.
- V. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures.
- VI. And ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father
- VII. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

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THE NICENE CREED (325 AD)

VIII. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father; (CATHOLICS ADD "AND THE SON.") Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets.

IX. I believe in one Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

X. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.

XI. I look for the resurrection of the dead.

XII. And the life of the world to come. Amen.

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Orthodox/Catholic Split

Orthodox teach that the Catholics split off from them. The Catholics teach that the Orthodox split off from them.

The split between them was made more concrete when the crusaders from the West sacked Constantinople (the chief city of the Orthodox at that time) in 1204.

The Patriarch of Constantinople (Istanbul) is considered first among equals, but does not exercise power over the other autocephalous churches

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There were more differences that had occurred. The Bishop of Rome in the west was isolated from the other centers of Christianity in the East. He was often appealed to in disputes occurring in the East since he was so far away from them geographically.

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Catholics Split from Orthodox

ORTHODOX TEACH THAT CATHOLICS SPLIT OFF FROM THEM AND THEY REMAINED TRUE!

1054 A.D.

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Patriarch Athenagoras and Pope Paul VI met in 1964

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BELIEFS OF ORTHODOXY

- > LITURGY – Prayers and ceremonies of their regular service. Christ is sacrificed in unbloody way
- > SEVEN SACRAMENTS –
 1. Baptism – triple immersion
 2. Chrismation – like confirmation, but done immediately. Anointing the baptized person with oil
 3. Eucharist – partaking of the bread and wine.
 4. Penance – Sins confessed and forgiven

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BELIEFS OF ORTHODOXY

- SEVEN SACRAMENTS –
 5. Ordination – Deacon, Priest or Bishop. Married men may be ordained, if married prior to ordination
 6. Marriage – Priest officiates in joining the couple in matrimony
 7. Holy Unction – Anointing the sick for serious illness
- COMMANDMENTS – One should keep them – numbered as usually done, not as Catholics

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BELIEFS OF ORTHODOXY

- PARADISE – will be filled with peace, joy, fellowship with saints and angels. And the beatific vision of God
- HELL – association with demons, sorrow, the fallen, and separation from God
- ICONS – Pictures, not three-dimensional statues

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BELIEFS OF ORTHODOXY

- CALENDAR – Julian calendar is used
- EXTREME DEVOTION – to the Holy Spirit and Mary
- APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION
- CHURCH – is Kingdom of Christ on earth

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FORMER POPE BENEDICT XVI AND PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW



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DIFFERENCES WITH CATHOLICS

1. Orthodox claim they are the True Church
2. Holy Spirit from the Father only
3. Confirmation at the time of baptism
4. No three-dimensional statues (idols)
5. Different dates for Xmas, Easter

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DIFFERENCES WITH CATHOLICS

6. No Pope or equivalent
7. No Purgatory
8. Mary not taken bodily to heaven
9. No Indulgences
10. Divorce, Remarriage allowed

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DIFFERENCES WITH CATHOLICS

11. Communion taken by all
12. Celibacy not required for ordination
13. Triple immersion for baptism
14. Leavened bread for the Eucharist
15. Priests and members partake of wine and bread

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DIFFERENCES WITH CATHOLICS

16. Confession is different – counselor/not judge
17. Do not accept the Apocrypha
18. Authority not exercised as strongly
19. No Immaculate Conception of Mary

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WHAT AM I?

1. BIBLE AND TRADITION ARE OF EQUAL AUTHORITY
2. FILIOQUE CLAUSE
3. TRANSUBSTANTIATION
4. HEAVY EMPHASIS ON THE TRINITY
5. CELIBATE BISHOPS
6. USE OF ICONS

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WHAT AM I?

1. BIBLE AND TRADITION ARE OF EQUAL AUTHORITY
Matthew 15:3-9; Colossians 2:8; II Thessalonians 2:15; John 17:17; II Timothy 3:15-16
2. FILIOQUE CLAUSE –
John 14: and 15:26; I Peter 1:11; Ephesians 2:18; Galatians 4:6; Titus 3:6

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WHAT AM I?

3. TRANSUBSTANTIATION –
Hebrews 9:28; Leviticus 17:10; Deuteronomy 14, Leviticus 11; I Corinthians 11:23
4. HEAVILY EMPHASIZE THE TRINITY –
John 10:30; Luke 24:49; John 17:1; I Thes. 5:19

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WHAT AM I?

5. CELIBATE BISHOPS –
I Timothy 3:1-2; I Timothy 4:1-3; I Corinthians 9:5
6. USE OF ICONS –
Exodus 20:4; Numbers 33:52; Isaiah 40:18; I Corinthians 6:9-10

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THE END

