### Lecture 24: Athanasius and Eastern Christianity

March 20, 2020

# **Three Eras of Church History**

A.D. 70 *Patristics* 

Roman Persecution: Nero → Constantine

Barbarians – sack Rome (AD 410)

A.D. 600 Medieval

Pope—Kings—Mohammed Philosophers & Monks/Mystics

A.D. 1500 *Modern* 

Renaissance → Reformation

"Enlightenment" Fact/Value Split

Remember: December 25, 800 – the crowning of Charlemagne

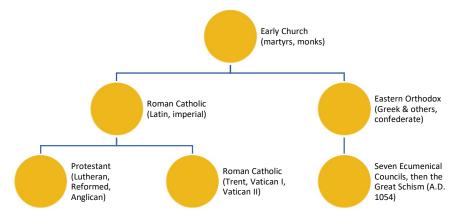
October 31, 1517 – the 95 Theses of Martin Luther

### **Three Branches of Christianity**

**Eastern Orthodox** – Athanasius, Cappadocians **Roman Catholic** – Augustine, Anselm, Aquinas

**Protestant** – Luther, Calvin

Claim: The faith is that which has been believed *ubique*, *semper*, *ab omnibus* (Vincent of Lérins). Illus. Reverse Engineering vs. the Gold Standard (cf. what is true Americanism?)



# Athanasius of Alexandria (c. 299-373)

Arian Controversy

Arius: "There was a time when he was not."

Council of Nicea (A.D. 325)

Arian Persecution

Five exiles

Western bishops, Egyptian monks

Arian Defeat

Prolific writer

Cappadocian settlement

#### Logos Trilogy

Against the Gentiles – the Logos in creation On the Incarnation – the Logos in Christ

Corruption  $\rightarrow$  restore to life 1 Why did the Logos become man?

Ignorance  $\rightarrow$  restore the image  $\rfloor$ 

Do you see revelation and resurrection?

Life of Antony – the Logos in a Christian