Trinitarian/Christological Heresies					
Heresy	Description	Origin	Official Condemnation	Other	
Adoptionism	Belief that Jesus was born as a mere (non-divine) man, was supremely virtuous and that he was adopted later as "Son of God" by the descent of the Spirit on him.	Propounded by Theodotus of Byzantium, a leather merchant, in Rome c.190, later revived by Paul of Samosata	Theodotus was excommunicated by Pope Victor and Paul was condemned by the Synod of Antioch in 268	Alternative names: Psilanthropism and Dynamic Monarchianism. Later criticized as presupposing Nestorianism (see below)	
<u>Apollinarism</u>	Belief that <u>Jesus</u> had a <u>human</u> body and lower soul (the seat of the emotions) but a <u>divine</u> mind. Apollinaris further taught that the <u>souls</u> of men were propagated by other souls, as well as bodies.	of Laodicea (died 390)	Declared to be a <u>heresy</u> in 381 by the <u>First Council of Constantinople</u>		
<u>Arianism</u>	Denial of the true divinity of Jesus Christ taking various specific forms, but all agreed that Jesus Christ was created by the Father, that he had a beginning in time, and that the title "Son of God" was a courtesy one. [10]	who lived and taught in	Arius was first pronounced a heretic at the First Council of Nicea, he was later exonerated as a result of imperial pressure and finally declared a heretic after his death. The heresy was finally resolved in 381 by the First Council of Constantinople.		
Docetism	Belief that Jesus' physical body was an illusion, as was his crucifixion; that is, Jesus only seemed to have a physical body and to physically die, but in reality he was incorporeal, a pure spirit, and hence could not physically die	Tendencies existed in the 1st century, but it was most notably embraced by <u>Gnostics</u> in subsequent centuries.	Docetism was rejected by the ecumenical councils and mainstream Christianity, and largely died out during the first millennium AD.	Gnostic movements that survived past that time, such as <u>Catharism</u> , incorporated docetism into their beliefs, but such movements were destroyed by the <u>Albigensian</u> <u>Crusade</u> (1209–1229).	
Luciferians	Strongly anti- <u>Arian</u> sect in Sardinia	Founded by <u>Lucifer</u> <u>Calaritanus</u> a bishop of Cagliari	Deemed heretical by <u>Jerome</u> in his <i>Altercatio Luciferiani et orthodoxi</i>		

Macedonians or While accepting the divinity of Allegedly founded in Opposed by the Cappadocian Fathers This is what prompted the addition Jesus Christ as affirmed at Nicea 4th century by Bishop and condemned at the First Council of "And in the Holy Spirit, the Pneumatomachians in 325, they denied that of the Macedonius I of of Constantinople. Lord, the Giver of Life, Who Constantinople. Holy Spirit which they saw as a proceedeth from the Father, Who creation of the Son, and a servant Eustathius of Sebaste with the Father and the Son is ("Spirit fighters") of the Father and the Son was their principal equally worshipped and glorified, theologian.[11] Who spake by the Prophets," into the Nicene Creed at the second ecumenical council. Considered Melchisedech an It is uncertain whether the sect Melchisedechians Refuted by Marcus Eremita in his incarnation of the Logos (divine book Eis ton Melchisedek ("Against survived beyond the 9th century. Word) and identified him with the Melchisedekites")[12] They were probably scattered across Anatolia and the Balkans the Holy Ghost following the destruction of Tephrike. Monarchianism An overemphasis on the Stressing the "monarchy" of God indivisibility of God (the Father) was in Eastern theology a at the expense of the other legitimate way of affirming his "persons" of the Trinity leading oneness, also the Father as the to either Sabellianism unique source of divinity. It (Modalism) or to Adoptionism. became heretical when pushed to the extremes indicated. Monophysitism or Belief that Christ's divinity After Nestorianism was Eutyches was excommunicated in dominates and overwhelms his rejected at the First 448. Monophysitism and Eutyches were rejected at the Council of Eutychianism humanity, as opposed to the Council of Ephesus, Eutyches emerged with Chalcedon in 451. Monophysitism is Chalcedonian position which holds that Christ has two natures, diametrically opposite also rejected by the Oriental one divine and one human or the views. **Orthodox** Churches Miaphysite position which holds that the human nature and preincarnate divine nature of Christ were united as one divine human nature from the point of the Incarnation onwards.

Monothelitism Belief that Jesus Christ had two Originated in Armenia Monothelitism was officially natures but only one will. This is and Syria in AD 633 condemned at the Third Council of contrary to the orthodox Constantinople (the Sixth Ecumenical Council, 680-681). The interpretation of Christology, which teaches that Jesus Christ churches condemned at has two wills (human and divine) Constantinople include the Oriental Orthodox Syriac, Armenian, and corresponding to his two natures Coptic churches as well as the Maronite church, although the later now denies that they ever held the Monothelite view and are presently in full-communion with the Bishop of Rome. Christians in England rejected the Monothelite position at the Council of Hatfield in 680. Patripassianism Belief that the Father and Son are similar to Sabellianism not two distinct persons, and thus God the Father suffered on the cross as Jesus. Psilanthropism Belief that Jesus is "merely Rejected by the ecumenical councils, See Adoptionism human": either that he never especially in the First Council of Nicaea, which was convened to deal became divine, or that he never directly with the nature of Christ's existed prior to his incarnation as divinity. a man. Sabellianism Belief that the Father, Son, and First formally stated by Noetus was condemned by the Alternative names: presbyters of Smyrna. Tertullian Noetus of Smyrna Holy Spirit are three Patripassianism, c.190, refined by characterizations of one God. wrote Adversus Praxeam against this Modalism, Modalistic rather than three distinct Sabellius c.210 who tendency and Sabellius was Monarchianism "persons" in one God. applied the names condemned by Pope Callistus. merely to different roles of God in the

history and economy of

salvation.

	Gnostic Heresies				
Heresy	Description	Origin	Official Condemnation	Other	
Manichaeism	A major dualistic religion stating that good and evil are equally powerful, and that material things are evil.	Founded in 210–276 AD by Mani	Condemned by Emperor Theodosius I decree in 382	Thrived between the 3rd and 7th centuries and appears to have died out before the 16th century in southern China.	
<u>Paulicianism</u>	A Gnostic and <u>dualistic</u> sect	The founder of the sect is said to have been an <u>Armenian</u> by the name of <u>Constantine</u> , who hailed from <u>Mananalis</u> , a community near <u>Samosata</u> .	Repressed by order of Emperess Theodora II in 843		
Priscillianism	A Gnostic and Manichaean sect	Founded in the 4th century by Priscillian, derived from the Gnostic-Manichaean doctrines taught by Marcus. Priscillian was put to death by the emperor Gratian for the crime of magic.	Condemned by synod of Zaragoza in 380.	Increased during the 5th century despite efforts to stop it. In the 6th century, Priscillianism declined and died out soon after the Synod of Braga in 563.	
Naassenes	A Gnostic sect from around 100 A.D.	The Naassenes claimed to have been taught their doctrines by Mariamne, a disciple of James the Just. [16]	Dealt as heresy by <u>Hippolytus</u> of Rome		
<u>Sethian</u>	Belief that the snake in the Garden of Eden was an agent of the true God and brought knowledge of truth to man via the <u>fall of man</u>	Syrian sect drawing their origin from the Ophites	Dealt as heresy by Irenaeus, Hippolytus, and Philaster	Sect is founded around the Apocalypse of Adam.	
<u>Ophites</u>	Belief that the serpent who tempted Adam and Eve was a hero, and that the God who forbade Adam and Eve to eat from the tree of knowledge is the enemy		Dealt as heresy by <u>Hippolytus</u> of Rome		
<u>Valentianism</u>	A Gnostic and dualistic sect	Gnostic sect was founded by Ex-Catholic Bishop Valentinus	Considered heresy by <u>Irenaeus</u> and <u>Epiphanius of Salamis</u>		

Heresies Other Early Church Heresies

		Other Christian heresies		
Heresy	Description	Origin	Official Condemnation	Other
Antinomianism	Any view which holds that Christians are freed by grace from obligations of any moral law. St Paul had to refute a charge of this type made by opponents because of his attitude to the Mosaic Law (Romans 3:8) ^[17]	Some gnostics (e.g. Ophites and Nicolaitans) taught that since matter was opposed to the spirit, the body was unimportant. Similar views were found among some anabaptists in the sixteenth century as a consequence of justification by faith and later among some sects in seventeenth century England.	Decree on Justification, chapter XV Council of Trent	Few groups [who?] have declared themselves Antinomian, and the term has often been used by one group to criticize another's views.
Audianism	Belief that God has human form (anthropomorphism) and that one ought to celebrate Jesus' death during the Jewish Passover (quartodecimanism).	Named after the leader of the sect, Audius (or Audaeus), a Syrian who lived in the 4th century.	The First Council of Nicaea condemned quartodecimanism in 325. Cyril of Alexandria condemned anthropomorphism at his Adversus Anthropomorphites	
Circumcellions	A militant subset of Donatism*	See Donatism.	Outlawed by Emperor Honorius in 408	Relied on violence.
<u>Donatism</u> *	Donatists were rigorists, holding that the church must be a church of saints, not sinners, and that sacraments administered by <i>traditores</i> were invalid. They also regarded martyrdom as the supreme Christian virtue and regarded those that actively sought martyrdom as saints.	Named for their second leader Donatus Magnus	Condemned by Pope Melchiades	Donatists were a force at the time of Saint Augustine of Hippo and disappeared only after the Arab conquest. [18]

Ebionites A Jewish sect that insisted on the necessity of following Jewish law and rites, [19] which they interpreted in light of Jesus' expounding of the Law. [20] They regarded Jesus as the Messiah but Poor Ones". [21][22] not as divine.

Belief that: Euchites /

Messalians

- 1. The essence (ousia) of the Trinity could be perceived by the carnal senses.
- 2. The Threefold God transformed himself into a single hypostasis (substance) in order to unite with the souls of the perfect.
- 3. God has taken different forms in order to reveal himself to the senses.
- 4. Only such sensible revelations of God confer perfection upon the Christian.
- 5. The state of perfection, freedom from the world and passion, is attained solely by prayer, not through the church or sacraments. ("Euchites" means "Those who pray")

The term *Ebionites* derives from the Hebrew אביונים Evionim, meaning "the

Originating in Mesopotamia, they spread to Asia Minor and Thrace. Justin Martyr considered them heretical at Dialogue with Trypho the Jew chapter xlvii

Bishop Flavian of Antioch condemned them about 376

In 375, Epiphanius records the settlement of Ebionites on Cyprus, later Theodoret of Cyrrhus reported that they were no longer present there. [23]

The group might have continued for several centuries, influencing the Bogomils of Bulgaria, the Bosnian church, the Paterenes and Catharism. [24]

Iconoclasm

The belief that icons are idols and should From late in the seventh be destroyed. [25]

century onwards some parts of the Greek Church reacted against the veneration of icons. In 726 the Emperor Leo III ordered the destruction of all icons and persecuted those who refused. The policy continued under his successors till about 780. Later Leo V launched a second attempt which continued till the death of the emperor Theophilus in 842

Condemned by Nicea II in 787 Leo III may have been which regulated the veneration motivated by the belief that

the veneration of icons, particularly in the excessive form it often took, was the chief obstacle to the conversion of Jews and Moslems

Marcionism

An Early Christian dualist belief system. Marcion affirmed Jesus Christ as the savior sent by God and Paul as his chief apostle, but he rejected the Hebrew Bible and the Hebrew God. Marcionists believed that the wrathful Hebrew God was a separate and lower entity than the all-forgiving God of the New Testament. This belief was in some ways similar to Gnostic Christian theology, but in other ways different.

Marcion of Sinope at Rome around the year 144. [26]

Originates in the teachings of Many early apologists, such as Marcionism continued in the Tertullian on his Adversus Marcionem (year 207) condemned Marcionism

West for 300 years, although Marcionistic ideas persisted much longer. [27] Marcionism continued in the East for some centuries later.

Montanism

The beliefs of Montanism contrasted with Named for its founder orthodox Christianity in the following ways:

- The belief that the prophecies of the Montanists superseded and fulfilled the doctrines proclaimed by the Apostles.
- The encouragement of ecstatic prophesying.

Montanus, Montanism originated at Hierapolis. It spread rapidly to other regions in the Roman Empire during the period before Christianity was generally tolerated or legal.

The churches of Asia Minor excommunicated Montanism^[29] Around 177, Apollinarius, Bishop of Hierapolis, presided over a synod which condemned the New Prophecy. [30] The leaders places into the 8th century. of the churches of Lyon and Vienne in Gaul responded to

Although the orthodox mainstream Christian church prevailed against Montanism within a few generations, labeling it a heresy, the sect persisted in some isolated

The view that Christians who fell from grace could not be redeemed.

- A stronger emphasis on the avoidance of sin and church discipline, emphasizing chastity, including forbidding remarriage.
- Some of the Montanists were also "Quartodeciman".[28]

the New Prophecy in 177

Pelagianism

Belief that original sin did not taint human nature and that mortal will is still capable of choosing good or evil without was later developed by Divine aid.

Named after Pelagius (ad. 354 Pelagianism was attacked in - ad. 420/440). The theology C(a)elestius and Julian of Eclanum into a complete system. [31] and refuted by Augustine of Hippo (who had for a time (385-395) held similar opinions^[32]) but his final position never gained general acceptance in the

the Council of Diospolis [33] and condemned in 418 at the Council of Carthage., [34] and the decision confirmed at the Council of Ephesus in 431.

Semipelagianism A rejection of Pelagianism which held that Augustine had gone too far to the other extreme and taught that grace aided Aquitaine, John Cassian and weakened some of Augustine's from the seventeenth free-will rather than replacing it.

Prosper and Hilary of Vincent of Lérins in the west. more extreme statements. [35]

East.

Such views were advanced by Condemned by the Council of The label Orange in 529 which slightly

"Semipelagianism" dates century.

^{*} Donatism is often spoken of as a "schism" rather than a "heresy" [36]

Medieval

Medieval heresies					
Heresy	Description	Origin	Official Condemnation	Other	
Bogomils	A Gnostic dualistic sect that was both Adoptionist and Manichaean. Their beliefs were a synthesis of Armenian Paulicianism and the Bulgarian Slavonic Church reform movement,	Emerged in Bulgaria between 927 and 970 and spread into Byzantine Empire, Serbia, Bosnia, Italy and France.			
<u>Catharism</u>	Catharism had its roots in the <u>Paulician</u> movement in Armenia and the <u>Bogomils</u> of Bulgaria, with a strong dualist influence against the physical world, regarded as evil, thus denied that Jesus could become incarnate and still be the son of God.	First appeared in the <u>Languedoc</u> region of <u>France</u> in the 11th century and flourished in the 12th and 13th centuries. Catharism had its roots in the <u>Paulician</u> and the <u>Bogomils</u> with whom the Paulicians merged.	papal bull <u>Ad</u> <u>abolendam</u>	After several decades of harassment and re-proselytizing, and the systematic destruction of their scripture, the sect was exhausted and could find no more adepts. The last known Cathar prefect in the Languedoc, <u>Guillaume Bélibaste</u> , was executed in 1321.	
Free Spirit	Mixed mystical beliefs with Christianity. Its practitioners believed that it was possible to reach perfection on earth through a life of <u>austerity</u> and <u>spiritualism</u> . They believed that they could communicate directly with <u>God</u> and did not need the <u>Christian church</u> for intercession.		condemned at the Council of Basel in 1431	Small groups living mostly in <u>Bohemia</u> , now the <u>Czech Republic</u> , during the 14th and 15th centuries.	
Fraticelli (Spiritual Franciscans)	Extreme proponents of the rule of Saint Francis of Assisi, especially with regard to poverty, and regarded the wealth of the Church as scandalous, and that of individual churchmen as invalidating their status.	Appeared in the 14th and 15th centuries, principally in <u>Italy</u>	Declared heretical by the Church in 1296 by Boniface VIII.		

Henricians

According to Peter of Cluny, Henry's teaching is summed up as follows:

- Rejection of the doctrinal and disciplinary authority of the church;
- Recognition of the Gospel freely interpreted as the sole rule of faith;
- Refusal to recognize any form of worship or liturgy; and
- Condemnation of
 - o the baptism of infants,
 - the Eucharist,
 - the sacrifice of the mass.
 - the communion of saints, and
 - prayers for the dead;

in France in the first half end of 1146, St of the 12th century. His preaching began around 1116 and he died

people of Toulouse to extirpate the last

Henry of Lausanne lived In a letter written at the In 1151 some Henricians still remained in Languedoc, for Matthew Bernard calls upon the Paris relates that a young girl, who gave herself out to be miraculously inspired by the Virgin Mary, was imprisoned around 1148. remnants of the heresy. reputed to have converted a great number of the disciples of Henry of Lausanne.

Triclavianism

Belief that three, rather than four nails were used to crucify Christ and that a Roman soldier pierced him with a spear on the left, rather than right side.

Attributed to Albigenses and Waldenses

Supposedly condemned by Pope Innocent III, but most likely never actually considered a heresy by said Pope.[37]

Waldensians (Waldenses or Vaudois)

A spiritual movement of the later Middle Ages

Begun by Peter Waldo, a Condemned by papal wealthy merchant who decided to give up all his worldly possessions and began to preach on the streets of Lyon in $1177.^{[38]}$

bull Ad abolendam

Waldensians endured near annihilation in the 17th century. Descendants of this movement still exist. Over time, the denomination joined the Genevan or Reformed branch of Protestantism.-

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Opinions classed as heretical by Roman Catholicism

Counter-Reformation

<u>Febronianis</u>	n An 18th-century German movement directed towards the nationalizing of Catholicism, the restriction of the power of the papacy in favor of that of the episcopate, and the reunion of the dissident churches with Catholic Christendom		Practice and ideology condemned by pope <u>Pius IX</u> 's <u>Syllabus of Errors</u> , pope <u>Leo XIII</u> 's Encyclical <u>Immortale Dei</u> , and <u>first Vatican Council</u>	compare with Erastianism
Gallicanism	The belief that civil authority — often the State's authority— over the Catholic Church is comparable to that of the Pope's		Practice and ideology condemned by pope <u>Pius IX</u> 's <u>Syllabus of Errors</u> , pope <u>Leo XIII</u> 's Encyclical <u>Immortale Dei</u> , and <u>first Vatican Council</u>	compare with Erastianism
<u>Jansenism</u>	A branch of <u>Catholic</u> thought which arose in the frame of the <u>Counter-Reformation</u> and the aftermath of the <u>Council of Trent</u> (1545–1563). It emphasized <u>original sin</u> , human <u>depravity</u> , the necessity of <u>divine grace</u> , and <u>predestination</u> .	Originating in the writings of the Dutch theologian Cornelius Otto Jansen, Jansenism formed a distinct movement within the Roman Catholic Church from the 16th to 18th centuries.	Condemned by Innocent X's bulls <i>Cum occasione</i> on May 31, 1653.	
<u>Josephinism</u>	The domestic policies of <u>Joseph II of Austria</u> , attempting to impose a liberal ideology on the Church.		Practice and ideology condemned by pope <u>Pius</u> <u>IX</u> 's <u>Syllabus of Errors</u> , pope <u>Leo</u>	compare with Erastianism

Restorationism

Christian primitivism, sometimes called *Restorationism*, refers to the belief held by various religious movements that *pristine* or *original* Christianity should be restored from a Great Apostasy. In the early 19th century, the Restoration Movement arose and grew rapidly in the eastern United States and Canada during the Second Great Awakening. The term restoration is also employed by the Latter Day Saint movement. In general, the Roman Catholic magisterium has not assessed and made pronouncement on the various restorationist groups.

XIII's Encyclical Immortale Dei,

and first Vatican Council

Restorationist heresies					
Heresy	Description	Origin	Official condemnation	Other	
<u>Jehovah's</u> <u>Witnesses</u>	Religious movement which expects the imininent return of Jesus. Jehovah's witnesses believe in a one-person God. No <u>Trinity</u> . Jesus is the first thing God created (as <u>Michael the Archangel</u>). [39]	It follows the teachings of Charles Taze Russell	The Gruppo di Ricerca e Informazione Socio Religiosa of the Milan Roman Catholic Dioceses declared in a convention in May 2011 that Jehovah's Witnesses doctrine are incompatible with Roman Catholic dogma		
Latter Day Saint movement /Mormonism	A group of religious denominations and adherents who follow at least some of the teachings and revelations of Joseph Smith, Jr God the Father was once a man, but progressed to godhood. He and His wife (Heavenly Mother) have physical bodies. No Trinity. Instead, Father, Son, and Spirit are three separate gods. Humans may become gods as well. Jesus was the spirit child between God and Mary. [39]	Founded by <u>Joseph Smith</u> , <u>Jr.</u> who, in 1827, began to gather a religious following after announcing that an angel had shown him a set of <u>golden</u> <u>plates</u> describing a visit of <u>Jesus</u> to the <u>indigenous</u> <u>peoples of the Americas</u> .	The Response to a dubium on the vality of baptism confered by the "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints", called "Mormons" issued by the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith considered Mormon baptism invalid; and the Letter from Congregation for Clergy called Mormon praxis erroneous practices	After Smith's death in 1844, the movement divided into several groups,	

Modern Movements

Heresy	Description	Origin	Official condemnation	Other
Americanism	A group of related heresies which were defined as the endorsement of freedom of the press, liberalism, individualism, and separation of church and state, as an insistence upon individual initiative, what could be incompatible with the principle of Catholicism of obedience to authority.		Condemned by Pope Leo XIII on his letter Testem Benevolentiae Nostrae in 1899	
Anglo-Israelism	Holds that English and to a lesser extent white peoples are the descendants of the ancient Israelites.			Forms the Basis of the <u>Christian</u> <u>Identity</u> Movement.
Christian Zionism	Belief that the ingathering of the exiles (Jews) in Israel is a prerequisite for the Second Coming of Jesus. This belief is primarily, though not exclusively, associated with Christian Dispensationalism.		The Jerusalem Declaration on Christian Zionism (August 22, 2006) rejects Christian Zionism, concluding that it is a "false teaching that corrupts the biblical message of love, justice and reconciliation."	
Community of the Lady of All Nations	The movement believes that its 90-year-old founder Marie Paule Giguère reincarnates Virgin Mary	Founded by Marie Paule Giguère in Quebec in 1971.	Her followers were excommunicated as heretics by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on July 11, 2007. Doctrinal Note of the Catholic Bishops of Canada concerning the Army of Mary and Tribus Circiter on the Mariavites.	also known as Army of Mary
<u>Feeneyism</u>	A theology that favors a strict interpretation of the doctrine <u>extra Ecclesiam nulla salus</u> ("outside the church there is no salvation").	Leonard Feeney (1897–1978), a Jesuit priest and founder of the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary		

ModernismEvolution of dogma in time and spaceAlfred Loisy,
George Tyrell,
Ernesto BuonaiutiCondemned by popes Leo XIII and Pius X in a series of encyclical
between 1893 and 1910PositiveA term adopted by Nazi leaders to referWith the fall of the Nazi regime in 1945, Positive Christianity as a

Positive A term adopted by Nazi leaders to refer With the fall of the Nazi regime in 1945, Positive Christianity as a to a model of Christianity consistent with Nazism.

With the fall of the Nazi regime in 1945, Positive Christianity as a movement fell into obscurity. It continues to be espoused by some Christian Identity groups, [43] but has been rejected by mainstream

Christian churches

Reincarnationism Belief that certain people are or can be reincarnations of biblical figures, such as

Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary.