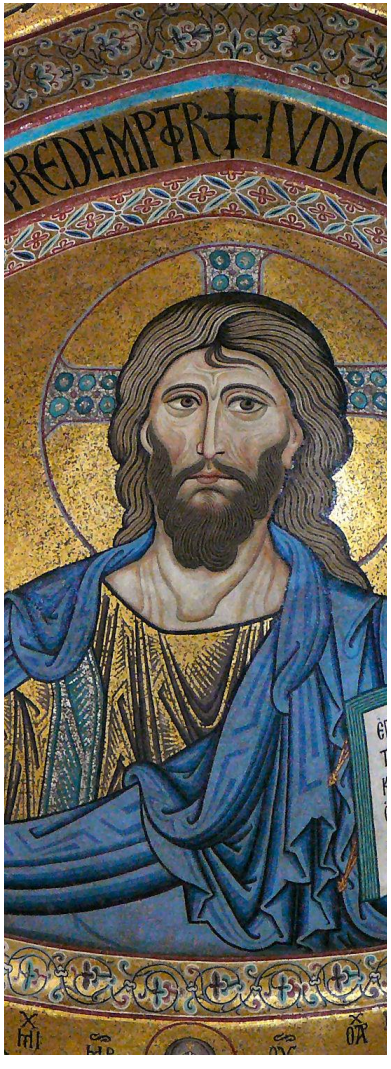






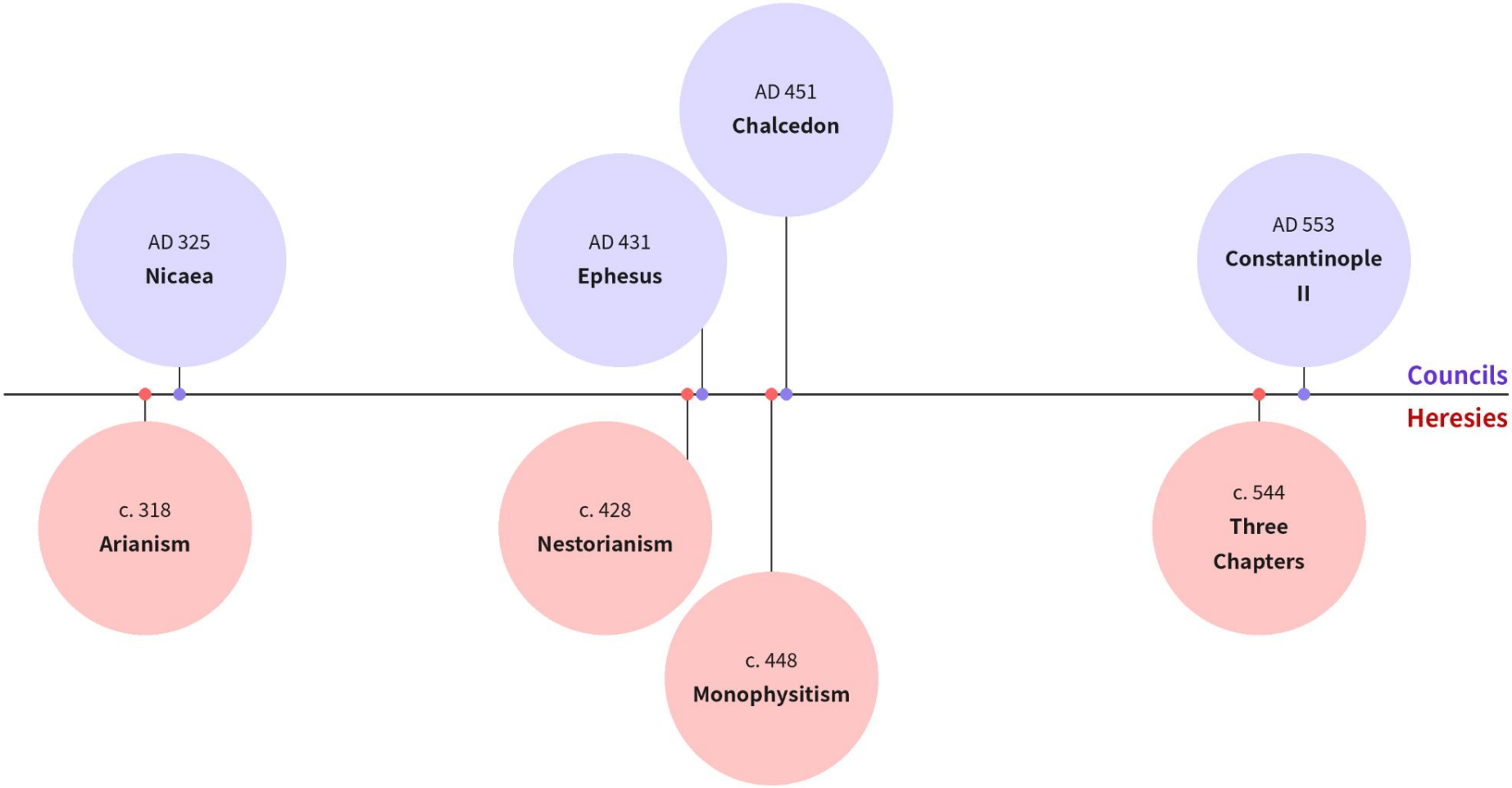
Jesus Christ: True God & True Man

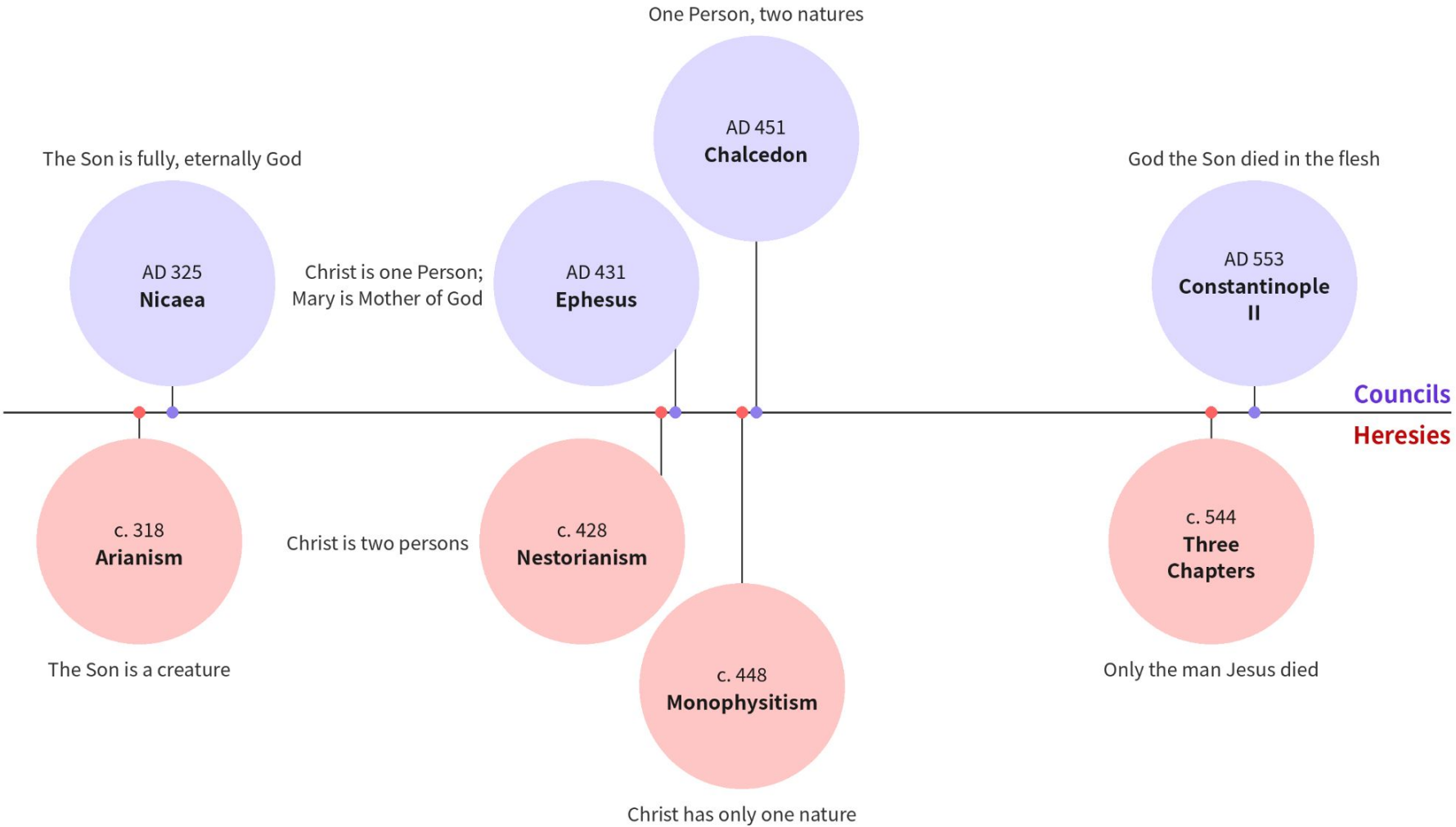
Michael Harrington

“Christianity got over the difficulty of combining furious opposites, by keeping them both, and keeping them both furious.”

-GK Chesterton




AD 325
Nicaea
AD 431
Ephesus
AD 451
Chalcedon
AD 553
Constantinople
II
Councils
Heresies
c. 318
Arianism
c. 428
Nestorianism
c. 448
Monophysitism
c. 544
Three
Chapters


One Person, two natures
AD 451
Chalcedon
The Son is fully, eternally God
God the Son died in the flesh
AD 325
Nicaea
Christ is one Person;
Mary is Mother of God
AD 431
Ephesus
AD 553
Constantinople
II
Councils
Heresies
c. 318
Arianism
Christ is two persons
c. 428
Nestorianism
c. 544
Three
Chapters
c. 448
Monophysitism
The Son is a creature
Only the man Jesus died
Christ has only one nature

What do we mean by True God?



What is True God?

- Creator vs. Creature
- Creation ex nihilo
- God is immaterial



John 8:58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”



2 Maccabees 7:28

I beseech you, my child, to look at the heaven and the earth and see everything that is in them, and recognize that **God did not make them out of things that existed.** Thus also mankind comes into being.



Colossians 1:15,16

He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.



Born of Woman



John 1:1-3, 14a In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God; 3 all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made… **And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us…**



Philippians 2:6,7
[Christ Jesus], who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be **grasped**, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.



How can Jesus be *both* God and man?



Nature: *what* something is
Person: *who* someone is
Hypostatic union:
the union of two natures
in one divine person



How is Jesus the *Eternal Son*?



Why did God become flesh?



I. So that we may know God's Love



II. To reconcile us with God (Atonement)



“...this cannot be effected unless the aforesaid satisfaction be made, which none but God can make and none but man ought to make, it is necessary for the God-man to make it.”

St. Anselm of Canterbury



“...it is necessary that the very same being should be perfect God and perfect man, in order to make this atonement. For he cannot and ought not to do it, unless he be very God and very man.”

St. Anselm of Canterbury



III. To be our model of holiness



IV. To make us partakers of the divine nature



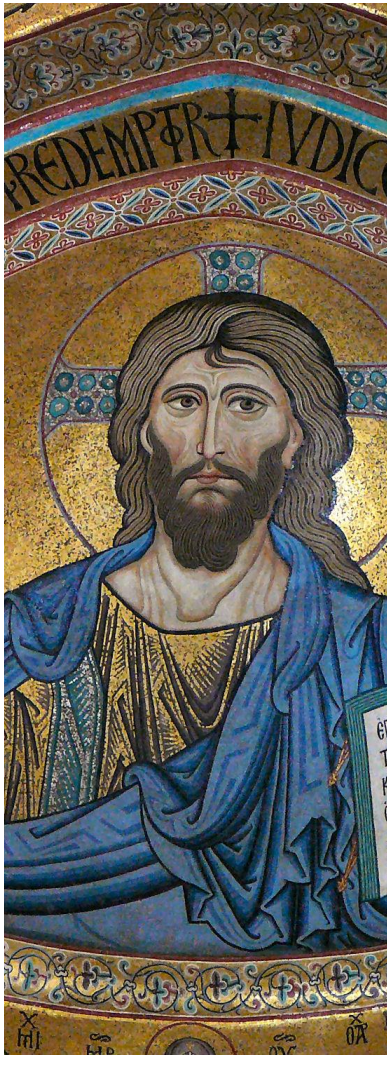
Galatians 4:4,5
But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive **adoption as sons.**



2 Peter 1:4
by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, that through these you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of passion, and **become partakers of the divine nature.**









Questions?