

## Ecclesial Typology

	<u>Anglican and Eastern Orthodox</u>	<u>Roman Catholic</u>	<u>Classical Protestant</u>
<b>Defining Era</b>	Early Christian (“Patristic”)	Medieval*	Reformation
<b>Theology</b>	Catholic	Catholic	Protestant**
<b>Membership Requirements</b>	Pragmatic	Confessional	“Free Churches”: Experiential Lutheran and Reformed: Confessional
<b>Theological Foundation</b>	Incarnation	Atonement*	Atonement

\* Since the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) there has been a move in the Roman Catholic Church from a Medieval theological centeredness to more of an Early Christian (Patristic) emphasis and from an Atonement theological foundation to more of an Incarnation foundation.

\*\* Within Lutheranism there is a “high church” movement calling for the restoration of Martin Luther’s original, more Catholic theological culture.

# Historic Traditions

## Classical Protestantism

## Traditional (Pre-Vatican II) Roman Catholicism\*\*

## Anglicanism and Eastern Orthodoxy

Authority: Bible alone, interpreted by each individual

Authority: Tradition (official teaching of the Roman Catholic Church as interpreted by the Bishop of Rome *ex cathedra*)

Authority: Co-equally the Bible interpreted by the Bishops of the Catholic Church *as a body* and Catholic and Apostolic Tradition (historical teaching of the Bishops of the Catholic Church *as a body*)

Emphasis solely on the individual's relationship with God (individualistic)

Emphasis on faithful membership in the Catholic Church in loyal communion with the Bishop of Rome (corporate)

Emphasis on both the importance of the individual's mature relationship with God and the importance of the individual's active membership in the Catholic Church (corporate and individual)

Emphasis on *submission* to Christ

Emphasis on *obedience* to the teaching authority of the Roman Catholic Church (the Bishop of Rome)

Emphasis on *union* with Christ, the Head of the Catholic Church

Defining culture: Reformation (1500's)

Defining Culture: High Middle Ages (1100's, 1200's)

Defining Culture: Patristic Age (first 600 years A.D.)

Official theologian: Martin Luther,\* John Calvin, or Ulrich Zwingli

Official Theologian: St Thomas Aquinas

Official Theologian: Bishops of the seven General Councils of the undivided Catholic Church (A.D. 325 to A.D. 787)

Worship: Preaching the Word; generally non-liturgical\*

Worship: Liturgical administration of the Sacraments

Worship: Liturgical celebration of both the Word and the Sacraments; centered in the daily recitation of the Divine Office and the Eucharist

Sacraments/ordinances: two symbols (subjective reminders of Jesus' teaching)\*

Sacraments: seven, which are objective realities (make present the reality and physically convey grace)

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Emphasis on the Atonement, humankind's fallen state and sinfulness, and God's judgment

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Emphasis on the Incarnation, the essential goodness of God's creation, and God's unconditional love for humankind

\*Lutheranism, while predominantly Protestant, has a spectrum of faith and practice world-wide with a "high church" movement among some Lutherans.

\*\* Since the Second Vatican Council there has been a significant process of re-reception [re-definition] actively supported by John Paul II and Benedict XVI.