

**THE BELIEFS and DOCTRINES
OF THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF
THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY TREE**

--- LISTEN INTELLIGENTLY --- ANSWER RIGHTLY --- JUDGE HONESTLY ---

EARLY FLIGHT : [INVENTORS AND ENTREPRENEURS]

1. Icarus: Greek
Imagination & Myth

2. String Kites – China
Tethered – Control

3. Man Carrying Kites –
Japan / China

4. Montgolfier Brothers –
France 1783

5. Union Army Balloon
Corp USA - Tethered

6. Sir George Caley
“Father of Aeroplane”

7. Gustave Weiskopf
“1st biplane glider”

8. Samuel Langley
“1st controlled glider”

9. Louis Belloit
1st flight across Channel

10. Neil Armstrong
1st man on the moon

**EACH STEP WAS NEEDED TO
FINAL ACHIEVE THE CURRENT
STANDARD OF FLIGHT WE HAVE
TODAY.**

**IT WAS ALWAYS, ONE STEP
CLOSER TO THE ANSWER.**

**THERE ARE STILL ANSWERS TO BE
INVESTIGATED AND FOUND !!!**

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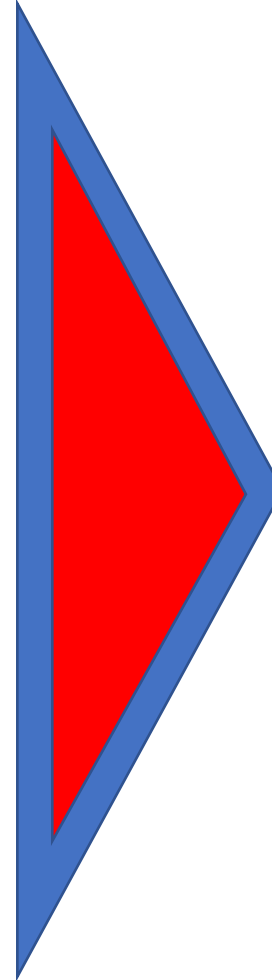
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**NO IDEA IS EVER BORN BY ITSELF.
THERE IS PEOPLE AND IDEAS
FROM MANY WALKS OF LIFE,
AND FROM MAN CENTURIES PAST
THAT GIVE US OUR CURRENT
WORLD VIEW.**

**THIS IS TRUE OF ALL CHURCH
MOVEMENTS AS WELL. WE ALL
ARE THE PRODUCT ON MANY
PREVIOUS THINKERS; SOME
GOOD AND SOME BAD.**

**THE RESTORATION MOVEMENT
WAS A MOVING AWAY FROM
CERTAIN TRENDS AND POLITICS
FROM MANY YEARS BEFORE
THOMAS AND ALEXANDER
CAMPBELL.**

I CORINTHIANS 1: 10

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FACT

1 Samuel 12:7 “Now therefore stand still, that I may plead with you before the Lord concerning all the righteous deeds of the Lord that he performed for you and for your fathers...”

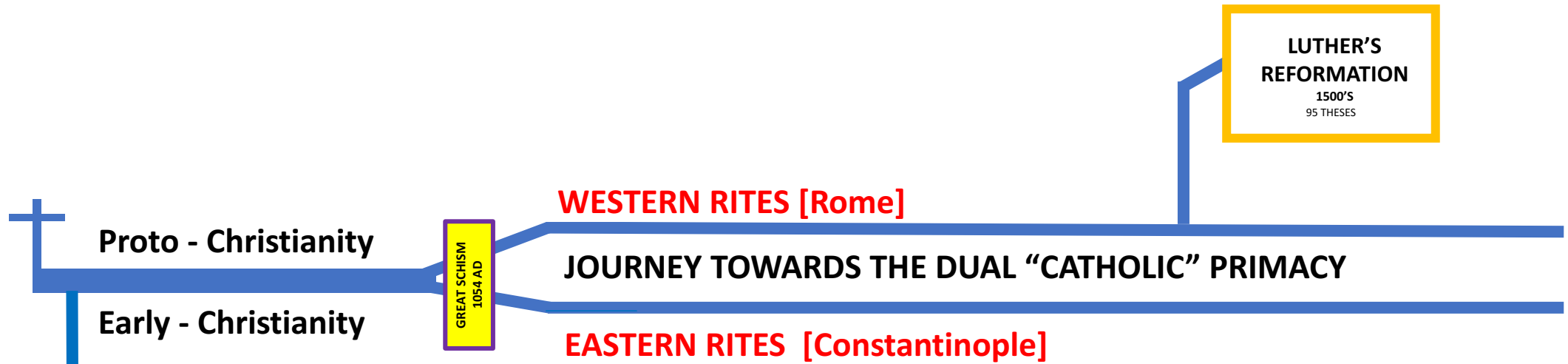
Proverbs 15:28 “The heart of the righteous studies how to answer...”

1 Peter 3:15 “... but in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ...”

Colossians 4:6 “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone...”

..... And yet we have split apart. WHY? HOW?

THE MAJOR DIVISIONS WITHIN CHRISTIANITY



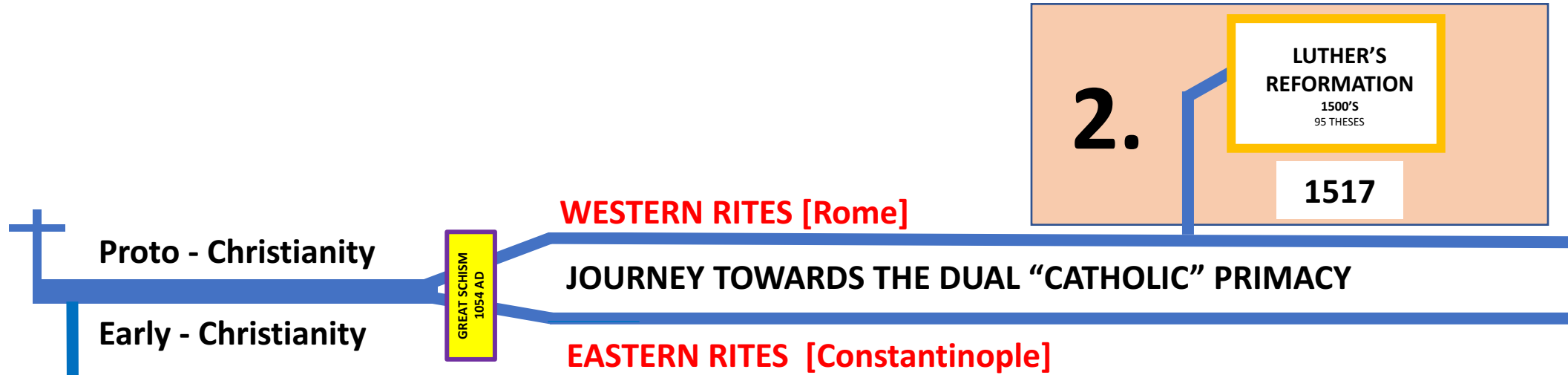
1.

CONSTANTINOPLE	MAJOR BISHOPRICS
ALEXANDRIA	
CARTHAGE	
ANTIOCH	
EDESSA	
EPHESUS	
BABYLON	
JERUSALEM	

By 90 A.D., while John was probably still alive, these bishoprics began to develop into autonomous regions with a degree of control over other bishops in the specific area. There was some degree of choice and independence in the earlier stages, but dominance was ever growing.

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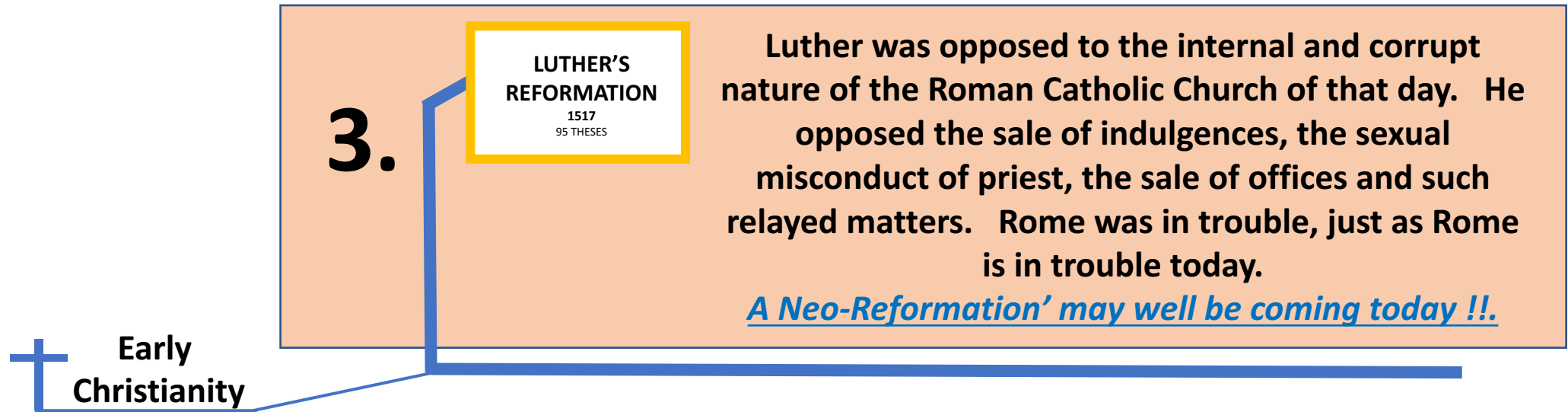


- CONSTANTINOPLE
 - ALEXANDRIA
 - CARTHAGE
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 - EPHESUS
 - BABYLON
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 - JERUSALEM
- MAJOR BISHOPRICS**

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THE MAJOR DIVISIONS WITHIN CHRISTIANITY



There were other reform minded people before the 1500's. However most of them were wanting to get the word of God into the hand of the common man', thus educating the common man directly from God Himself: "**Sola Scriptura**">. It was Martin Luther who really got things started by writing the 95 Theses in 1517. These 95 theses can be boiled down into a few smaller numbers which covers the over-rides if the full 95 theses. All 95 of these theses needed to be said, and still need to be read as a whole.

THE CONCERNS OF MARTIN LUTHER

1. The sale of indulgences...permission for sin ,with the proceeds going to the pope first, and then to the church coffers. The church was auctioning off 'helps' to get relatives out of purgatory, for a significant sum of money, part going to the Pope, part to all lesser offices, and finally to the church coffers themselves, via the Holy Roman Empire's postings and fund managements.
2. The Pope refused to allow the bible to be translated into the languages of the common people. The Pope had only the very elite priest able to read Latin, but the common man was prohibited from reading God's word for fear that other readers would undermine the church's role as the only interpreter.
3. The belief that the Pope was totally infallible.
4. The prayers offered to saints, at a price, to get help for the injured and falsely treated, usually before ecclesiastical courts. This was done without any biblical authority, other than the Catholic Curia's directions.
5. The work of Jesus on the Cross was totally sufficient and totally complete by itself in all of the texts, but the Catholic hierarchy denied this and upheld the concept of sacraments. The chief concern on this level was that the communion became a new sacrifice to yey again absolve sin. Jesus' death was not sufficient by itself.
6. The right of the Popes to fully forgive sins should he choose to do so.

NOTE: LUTHER DID NOT SET OUT TO BUILD A NEW AND DIFFERENT CHURCH. HE WANTED TO REFORM THE TRUE CHURCH

THE GIFTS OF MARTIN LUTHER

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Luther gave back to man...

1. A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
2. A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS
3. A SINGULAR SALVATION SYSTEM BASED ON THE CROSS - GRACE
4. A MORAL CODE WITHOUT LOOP-HOLES AND PRIVILEGES
5. A LIVABLE LIFE STYLE OF LOVE AND PURITY
6. A RECOURSE TO GOD'S GRACE WITHOUT EMBELLISHMENTS AND SPECIAL CHAPEL COSTS
7. A BROTHERHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS WITHOUT A SPECIAL CLASS OF PRIESTS – MEDIATORS

GIVEN WHERE HE STARTED HIS STUDIES FROM, HE HAS GAVE BACK TO THE CHURCH A GREAT-GREAT DEAL!!

THE OMISSIONS OF MARTIN LUTHER

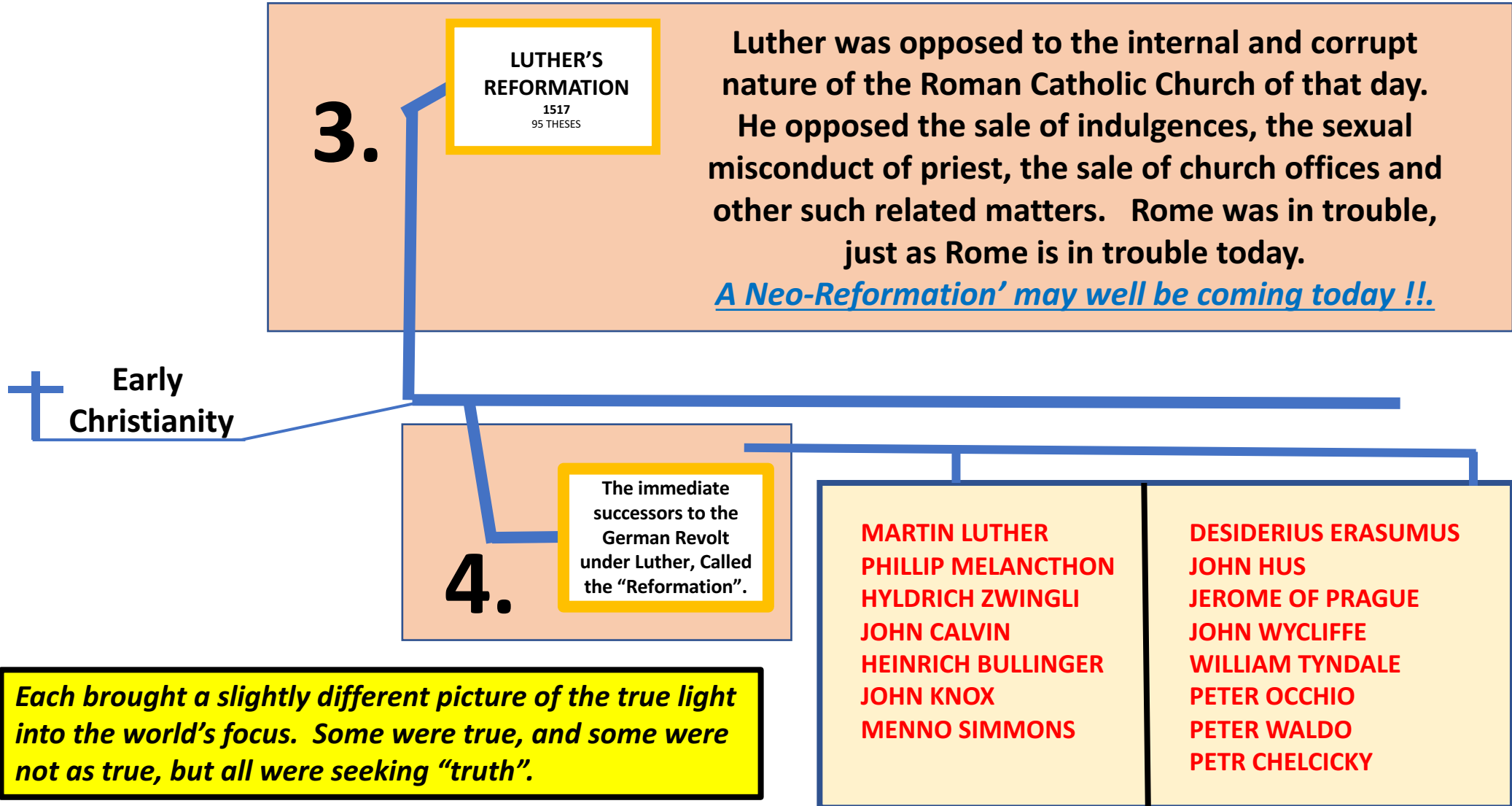
NOTE: LUTHER DID NOT SET OUT TO BUILD A NEW AND DIFFERENT CHURCH. HE WANTED TO REFORM THE TRUE CHURCH

Luther gave back to man...

1. MAINTAINED THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEA OF A SINGULAR PAPACY
2. ACQUESSED TO THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE, ON A PRACTICAL BASIS
3. CHANGED TRANSUNSTATION INTO CONSUBSTANTION
4. SPECIAL ORDAINED AND EDUCATED PRIESTHOOD
5. LEFT THE BASIC IDEA OF PURGATORY ITSELF VERY MUDDLED AND UNDECIDED
6. INITIALLY BELIEVED IN PRAYING FOR THE DEAD
7. MAINTAINED THE ROLE OF THE WEEKLY CONFSSIONAL, AS IT WAS.

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..... And yet we have split apart. **WHY? HOW?** The Introduction to The Protestant Revolt



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REVIEW

3.

LUTHER'S REFORMATION

1517
95 THESES

Luther was opposed to the internal and corrupt nature of the Roman Catholic Church of that day. He opposed the sale of indulgences, the sexual misconduct of priest, the sale of church offices and other such related matters. Rome was in trouble, just as Rome is in trouble today.

A Neo-Reformation' may well be coming today !!

Early
Christianity

4.

The immediate successors to the German Revolt under Luther, Called the "Reformation".

MARTIN LUTHER
PHILLIP MELANCTHON
HYLDRICH ZWINGLI
JOHN CALVIN
HEINRICH BULLINGER
JOHN KNOX
MENNO SIMMONS

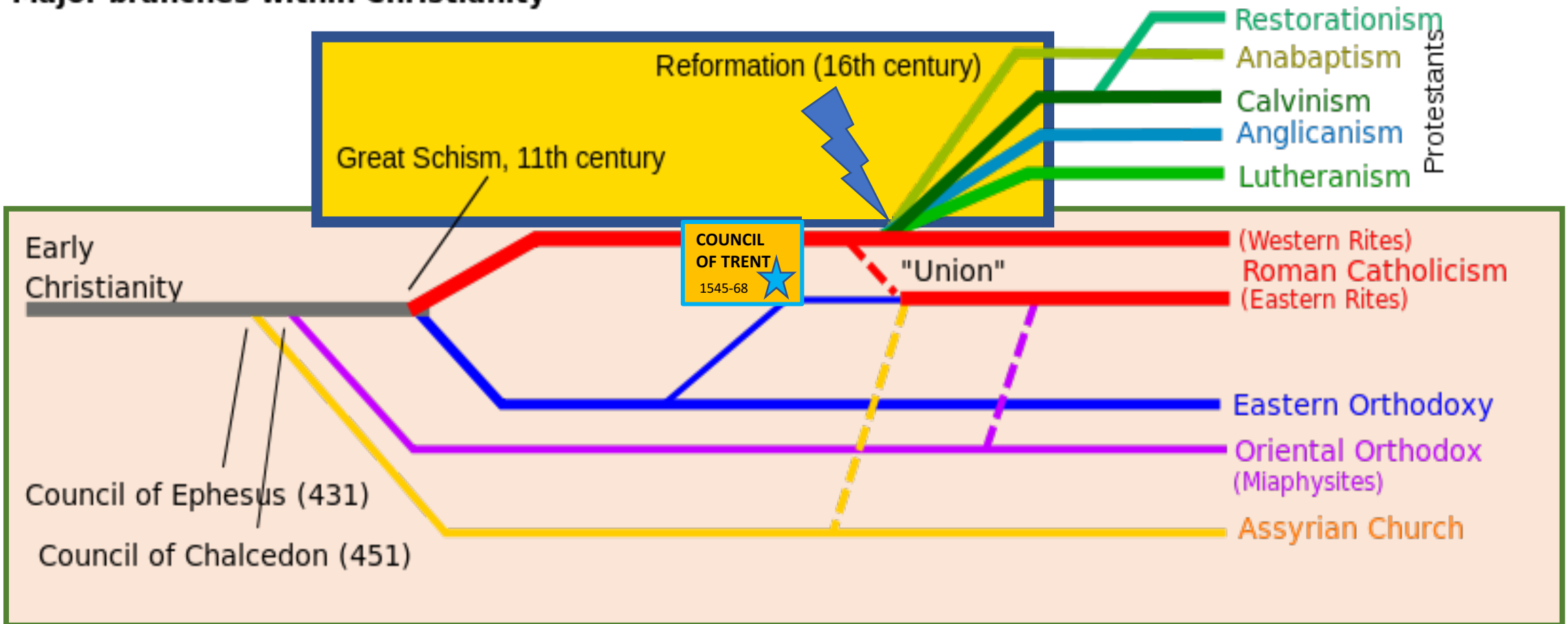
DESIDERIUS ERASMUS
JOHN HUS
JEROME OF PRAGUE
JOHN WYCLIFFE
WILLIAM TYNDALE
PETER OCCHIO
PETER WALDO
PETR CHELCICKY

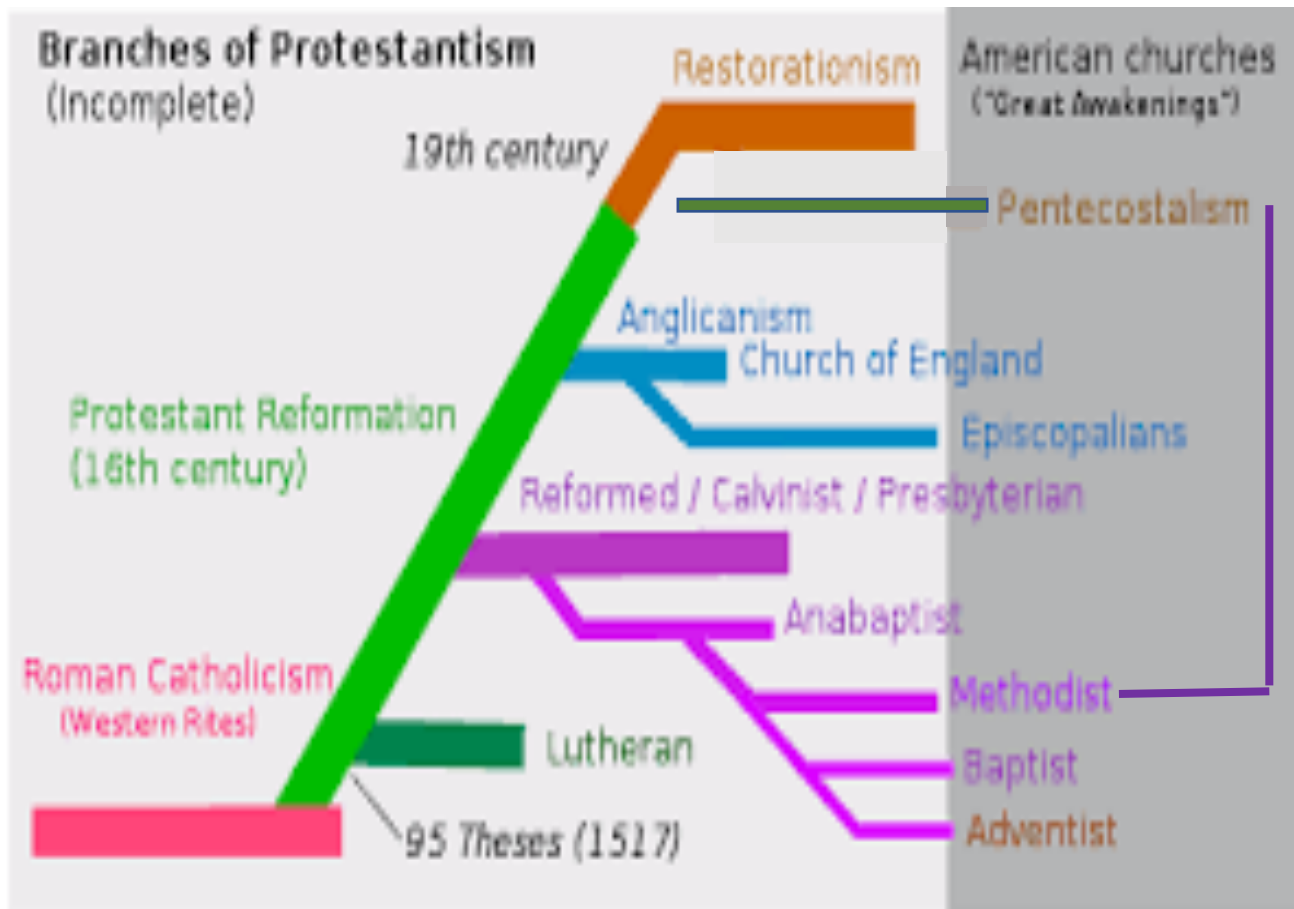
Each brought a slightly different picture of the true light into the world's focus. Some were true, and some were not as true, but all were seeking "truth".

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THE CATHOLIC RESPONSE COUNTER-REFORMATION

Major branches within Christianity





All religious groups have either a direct basis, or a more distant relationship, with another group of people who also began in the German revolution of Luther and Melancthon.

We all are the product on the thoughts of others who were concerned about the true truth and the traditional truths which have come down to us from a conservative base, somewhere-sometime.

The great question is now, as it always has been, "what is truly right and yet what is truly tolerated, as man tries to grow towards being the people God approves of most?". So, what have we gained over the years from the various souls that have felt compelled to speak out, for God?

WHICH DENOMINATION AM I , ... Really ???

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FACT: --- WE ALL CAN 'JUDGE OURSELVES' AS HONESTLY AS WE CAN JUDGE ANY THING, AT ALL. THAT IS A SIMPLE FACT. WE ARE COMMANDED TO JUDGE OURSELVES, FIRST, AND THEN OTHERS SECOND !!

TO DO SO, WE JUST HAVE TO BE HONEST AND FOLLOW THE LINE OF THOUGHT DOWN TO A POSITION THAT DESCRIBES 'ME', AND MY THINKING MOST ACCURATELY.

HOW DO WE GO ABOUT THAT SEARCH ??

Even though y
when you bec
second experi
available to all
later, which re
"baptized in th

Yes. When you are "baptiz
Holy Spirit," you are made
holy. Before, you couldn't l
with all your heart, mind, s
strength. Now, you can.

Yes
-Nazarene Church
-Wesleyan Church
-Church of God
(Anderson, Indiana)

That second experience isn't
the "baptism of the Holy
Spirit." It's the gift of
sanctification. There is a third
experience of the Holy Spirit,
and *this* is the baptism of the
Holy Spirit. When you receive
this baptism, you will speak in
other tongues, and then you
will be able to use other
supernatural spiritual gifts.

Some Pentecostal denominations
such as:
-The Church of God In Christ
-The Church of God
(Cleveland, Tennessee)

Some Pent
such as:
-The Assen

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Synod)

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**SO, WE FIRST NEED TO SEEK A SINGLE STANDARD
TO USE TO DO THIS JUDGING, ONCE WE HAVE
ACCEPTED THE NECESSITY OF THAT COMMAND.**

**THIS NARROWS DOWN OUR FIELD
CONSIDERABLY !!!**

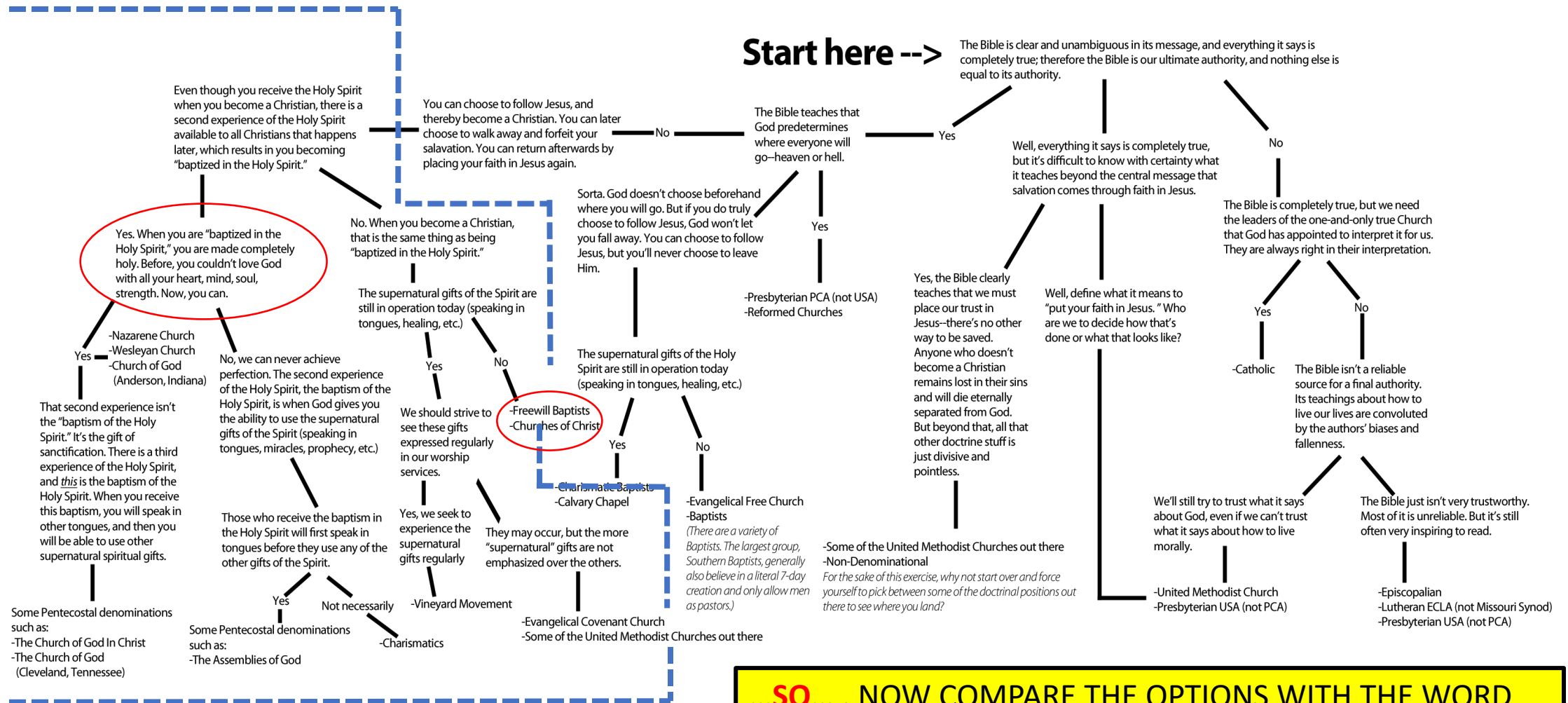
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START: WRITE OUT A DESCRIPTION OF WHAT YOU PERSONALLY BELIEVE. DO NOT TRY TO BE A THEOLOGIAN, OR A BIBLICAL SCHOLAR. JUST WRITE OUT YOUR BELIEFS IN THE CLEAREST WAY THAT YOU CAN. THIS WILL SERVE AS A TOOL BY WHICH YOU CAN RETURN LATER AND COMPARE THE GIVEN OPTIONS AND IDEAS.

WHICH DENOMINATION AM I. ... Really ???

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WHICH DENOMINATION AM I , ... *Really* ???

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START: DEVELOP A DATABASE FROM WHICH TO WORK. NEVER STOP COMPARING AND SEEKING. HONESTY STUDY IS NEVER WRONG, NOR UNPRODUCTIVE. IT ALWAYS BRINGS US EVER CLOSER TO THE TRUE TRUTH AT SOME LEVEL..

LIKE THE TV PROGRAM, "CSI", THE FORENSICS ARE GOING TO POINT TO ONLY ONE CONCLUSION. IT MAY REVEAL SOME ANOMILIES, BUT IT WILL REVEAL THE TRUTH IF PURSUED VIGOROUSLY AND HONESTLY. LEAVE YOUR PREJUDICES AT THE DOOR. JUST BE OPEN AND HONEST TRUSTING GOD TO LEAD YOU ALL THE WAY HOME.

THE BELIEFS,
THE DOCTRINES,
AND THE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN THE VARIOUS BRANCHES
OF THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY TREE

--- LISTEN INTELLIGENTLY --- ANSWER RIGHTLY --- JUDGE HONESTLY ---

THE GREAT DENOMINATIONAL REALITY

FACT #1: All of us are part of some group, one way or another. Some are related to one another, and some are very different from one another. That is the dynamic reality in which we live.

FACT #2: We all, no matter what group we belong to, have some answers that are right, and some answers that are not quite so right, and, unfortunately for us all, some answers that are wrong altogether.

FACT #3: We all, every one in the whole of Christendom, are having to deal with unique challenges in this day of universal conflict. We will never come up with just one set of responses to these challenges that is seen as 'the answer' by every one.

FACT #4: Some are doctrinal differences and some are relation differences, and some are just cultural / philosophic starting points that will always differ one from another in the greater scheme of universal Christendom. All other religions merely compound the problem even more. This is between those who claim to be Christian in some particular sense.

FACT #5: The two greatest enemies that we face are our own history and those who are our heroes with in our fellowship community. Both history and heroes combine to make a 'denomination', no matter what is actually believed today.



3





Primary Christian Denominations

