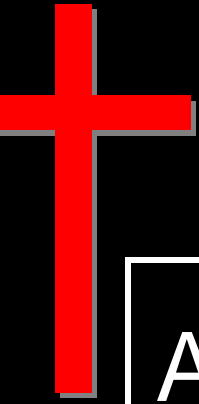


DIVISIONS OF CHURCH HISTORY



ANCIENT
CHURCH

MODERN
CHURCH

MEDIEVAL
CHURCH

POSTMODERN
CHURCH

A.D. 600

1500

1700

1900

Reformation

Enlightenment

THE ANCIENT CHURCH

A.D. 100-600

AGE
OF THE
APOSTOLIC
FATHERS

AGE
OF THE
APOLOGISTS

AGE
OF THE
THEOLOGIANs

A.D.
100

A.D.
150

A.D.
300

A.D.
600

DOGMA,

derives from a Greek term “*dokein*” (it seems).

“a decree, a decision, or a command.”

In the New Testament it became attached to the findings of an ecclesiastical body such as in Acts 16:4 (*dogmata*).

DOGMA,

“the study of confessional statements; the study of creeds related to either the early ecumenical creeds of the church, or later creeds of different churches.”

Eastern Orthodox

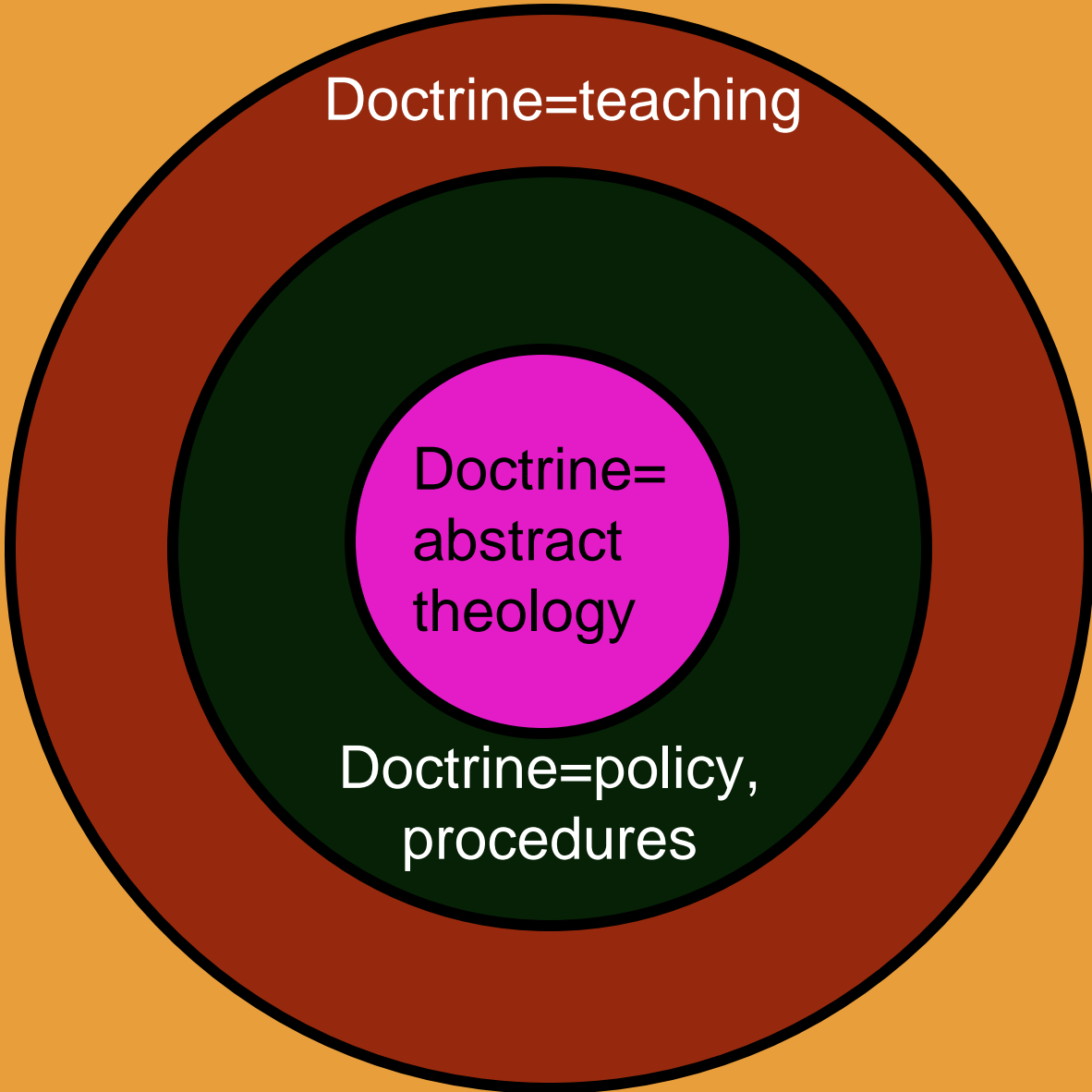
Roman Catholic

Lutheran

Doctrine,

“that which is taught; what is held, put forth as true or supported by a teacher, a school, or group.”

In this sense doctrine denotes teaching as distinguished from dogma which denotes only such teaching as is part of the written confession of the church.



Doctrine=teaching

Doctrine=
abstract
theology

Doctrine=policy,
procedures

THE COMPONENTS OF DOCTRINAL FORMULATION A QUESTION-ANSWER EXERCISE

THE SCRIPTURES

QUESTIONS-----CHURCH REFLECTION-----FORMULATED
REPLIES

DOCTRINE

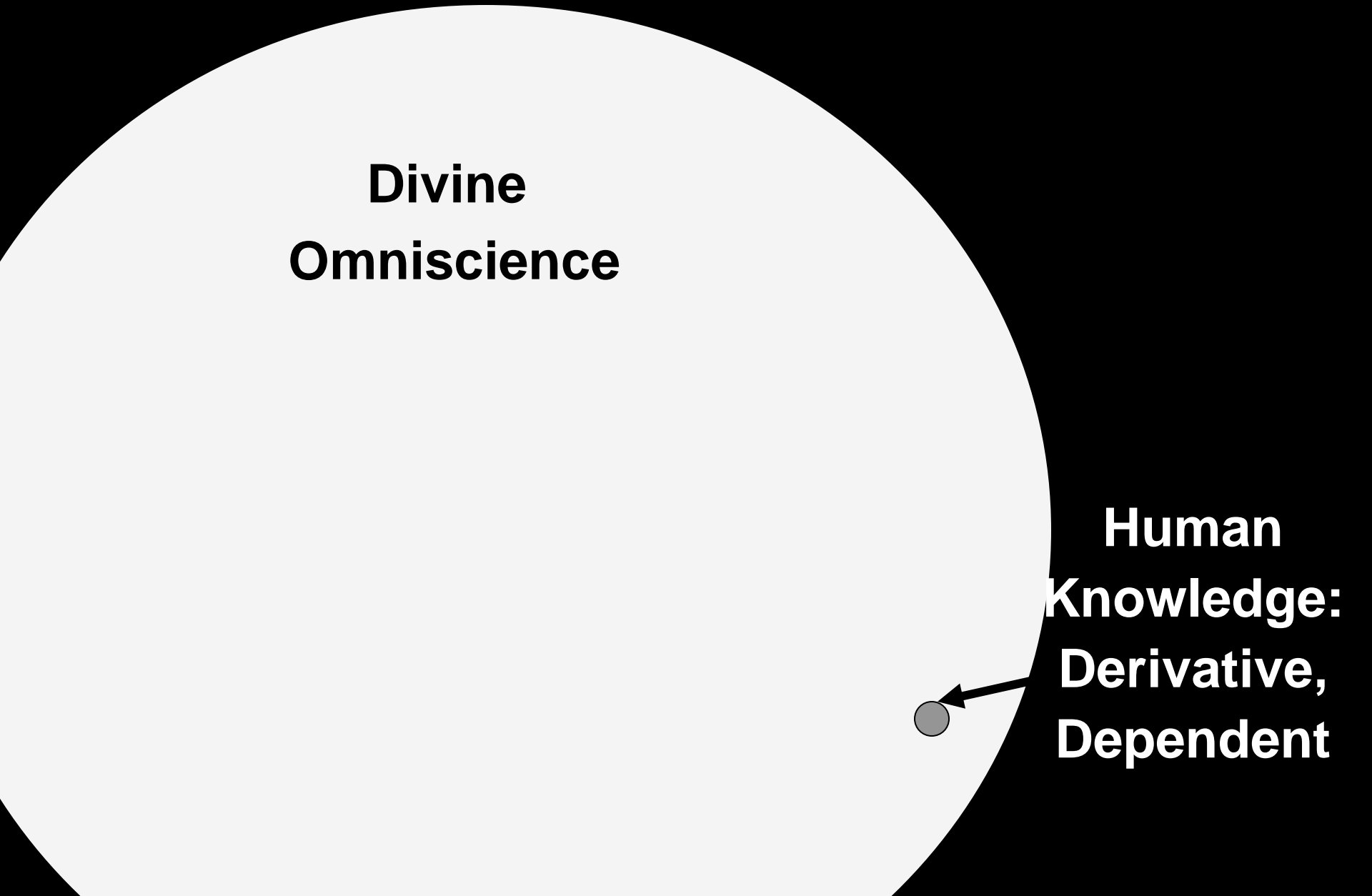
The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems Of Perception	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas Faith in human ability.	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, Nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable.
	TRADITION	Combination of above; institutional, creaturely authority	Historical validation
	REVELATION	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason
Divine Viewpoint			

PRE-MODERN EPISTEMOLOGY

**Divine
Omniscience**

**Human
Knowledge:
Derivative,
Dependent**



The Response of the Ancient Church to Heresy

Doctrine of
Apostolic
Succession

Development
of the
Roman Creed

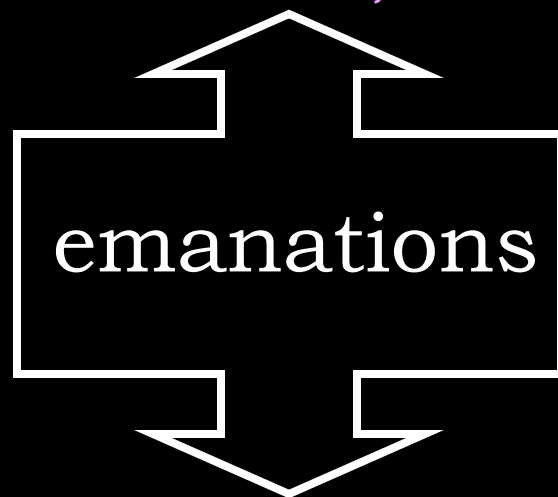
Development
of the New
Testament Canon

GNOSTICISM

GOD

(Pure Spirit)

knowledge

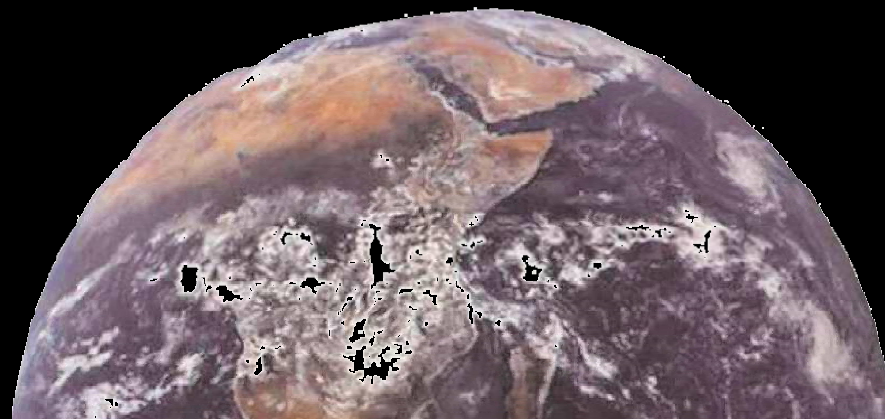


emanations

DUALISM

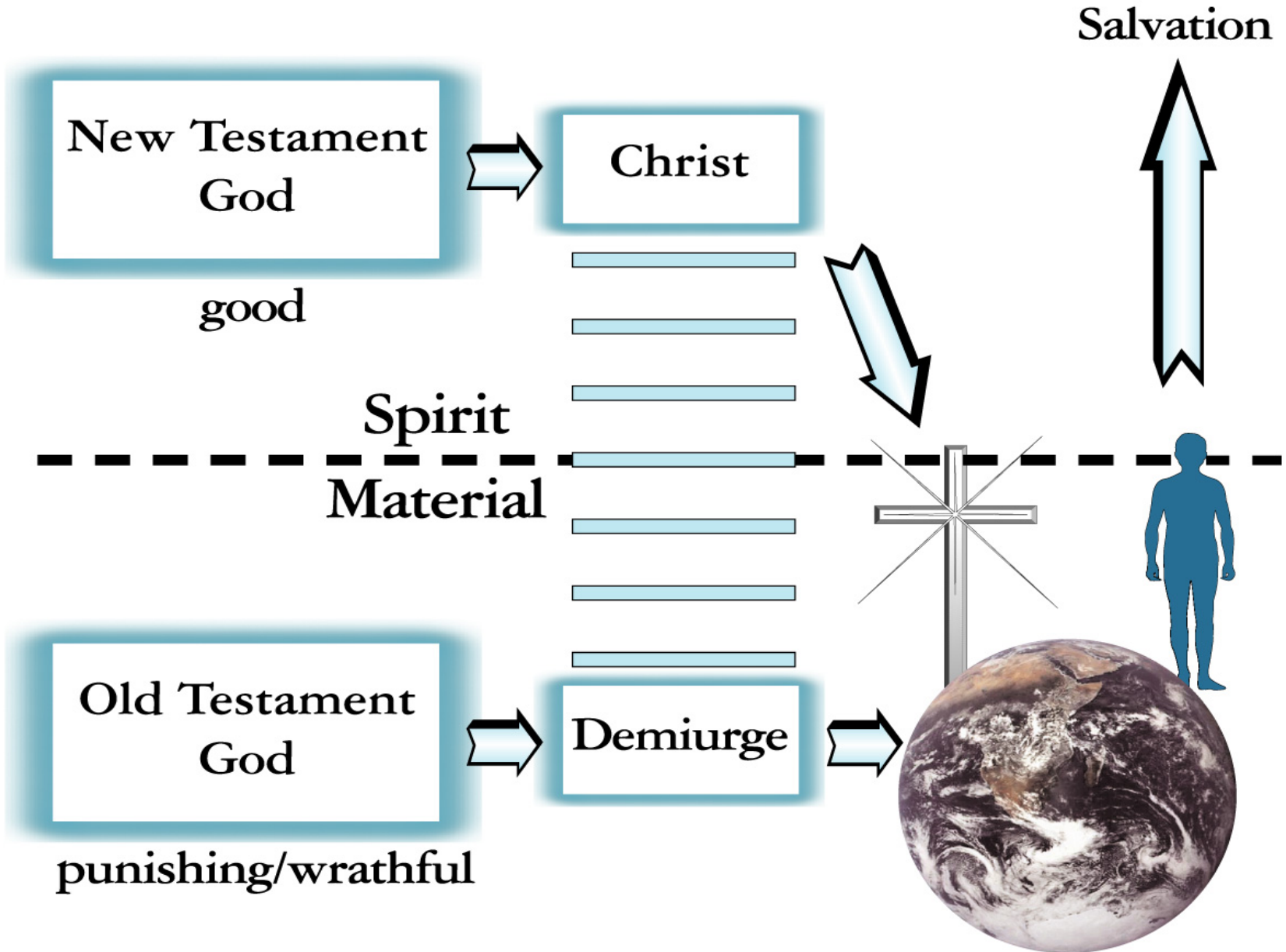
demiurge

world



man

Marcionism



Gnosticism and Marcionism Compared

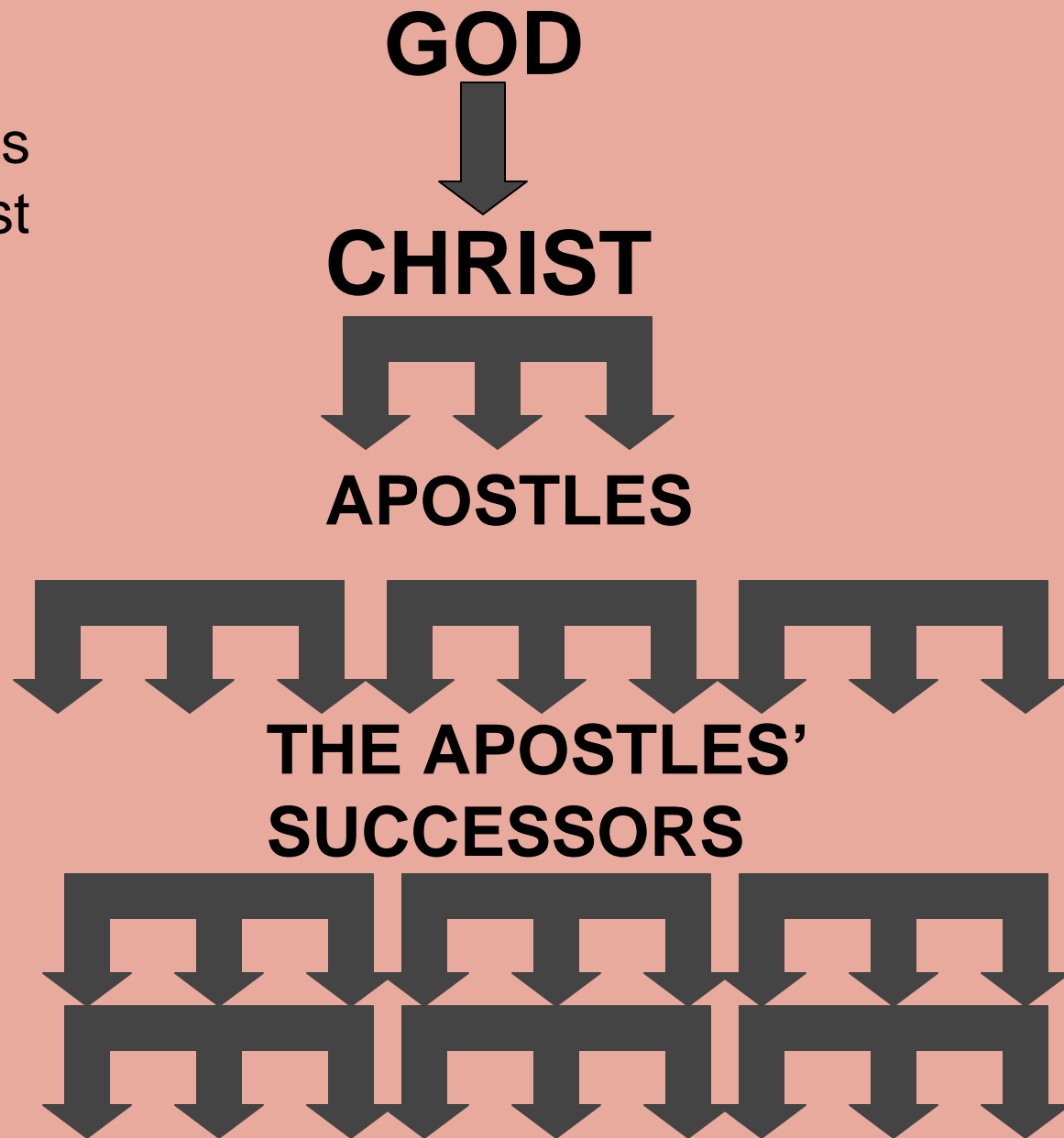
Gnosticism	Marcionism
O.T.: reinterpret spiritually, embraced it	O.T.: interpret literally, but rejected it
N.T.: make additions (Gospel of Thomas)	N.T.: eliminate unwanted material
Secret knowledge	No secret knowledge (careful study of Paul)
Highly speculative	No interest in speculation
Founded schools	Founded churches

AUTHORITY IN THE EARLY CHURCH

A succession of bishops from God through Christ in the churches.

A single apostolic successor in each church (a bishop).

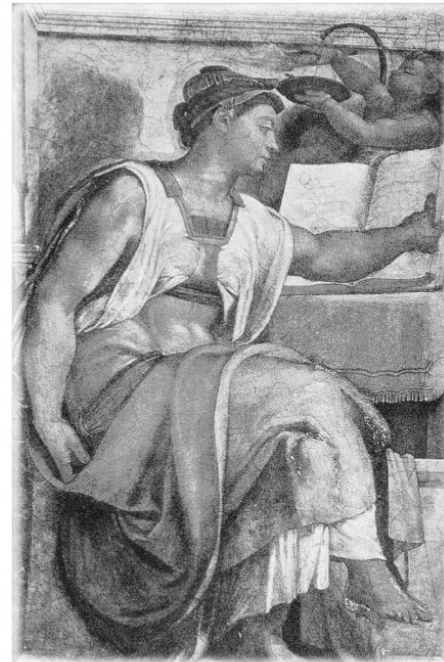
An emphasis on a linearly passed tradition of doctrine.



Montanism



Tongues
Revelation
Healing



The Old Roman Symbol (w/ Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, *maker of heaven and earth*. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was *conceived* by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, who *suffered* under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, *dead*, and buried; *He descended into Hades*, the third day He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of *God* the Father *Almighty*; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. And *I believe* in the Holy Ghost; the holy *catholic* Church; *the communion of saints*; the forgiveness of sins The resurrection of the body: *and the life everlasting*. [italics are the later additions]