

MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR

Patristic Theology

LIFE

- Born in 580
- Imperial service 610-613
- Monastic life in Constantinople 613-624
- Monk in Africa 626-645
- Rome 645-653
- Arrested Jun 17, 653
- Six-year exile
- Trial for heresy in 662
- Died Aug 13, 662

THEOLOGY

- Knowledge of God
 - Apophaticism
 - The Nature of God
- Anthropology
 - The problem of sin
 - Mediators
 - Microcosm
 - Love
- Union with God

PATH TO HOLINESS

- Spiritual crucifixion
 - Detachment from passions
 - Detachment from knowledge
 - Detachment from intellectual
- Approach to God
 - Substantial knowledge
 - Patterning to the divine
 - *Theologia*: a relationship to God above knowledge

CHRISTOLOGY

- Composite nature
- Two energies
- Hypostasis and Essence
- Nature (*logos*) and Mode (*tropos*)
- Hypostasis of the Divine Logos
- Two wills
- Coincidence of Humanity and Divinity

DEIFICATION

- Incarnation and inhumanization

- Body, will, and mind transformed
- Grace
- Nature
- Divinization by grace, by participation, by position, by state, by quality, according to their mode of existence

SUMMARY OF THE PROCESS OF DEIFICATION IN MAXIMUS

Disorder in the person

- Orientation towards God has been thwarted
- Desire is now a fleeing from pain
- The vices
- Disintegrating of the person through the passions
- Separation from God which is separation from neighbor

Disorder in the world

- Human as microcosm
- Human as responsible for creation

The Path toward Harmony

- The body
 - Crucifixion of the body
 - Renunciation
 - Detachment and Impassibility (*apatheia*)
 - Deification at the level of the body
- The will
 - Gnostic will
 - Knowledge of good & evil is knowledge of sensible world
 - Carnal vision results in evil
 - Better way: Meditation on God and God's relation to self
 - Crucifixion of the will
 - Development of virtue
 - Submission to God
 - Spiritual vision results in good
 - Deification at the level of the will: Love
 - Unites the person to God beyond knowledge
 - Becomes Christ's inhabitation of the believer
 - In love the person is oriented to God
 - The love received unites the person to God, becoming an incarnation in the person
 - As creature the person is conformed to the indwelling of love
 - God becomes incarnate in the likeness of diverse persons
 - Synergy
- The mind
 - Disordered mind
 - Contemplation of creation
 - Healing the mind
 - Crucifixion of the mind
 - Exercising the mind
 - The Conditions for True Knowledge
 - Knowledge of the world
 - Knowledge of God
 - God beyond knowledge
 - The journey of the mind to God

- Deification at the level of the mind
 - Communion with the logos through the *logoi* of created things
 - Pure prayer
 - The silence of union
- Society
 - Human as mediator & microcosm
 - Center of creation: double relation to God/intelligible and bodily/sensible
 - Responsibility for corruption and disunity
 - Responsibility for redemption through reintegration
 - Six-fold integration
 - Jesus
 - Deification at the level of the Church

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