

Chart of Historical Christological Heresies

Heresy	Date	Natures	Proponents	Heresy	Refuted by	Reply
Docetism	End C1	H- D+	Basilides; Valentinus; Patripassians; Sabellians	Jesus=God, therefore can't be human. The visible Jesus was only a hologram	Irenaeus ; Hippolytus ; 1John 4:1-3	If Christ were not fully human He could not redeem humanity (Heb. 2:14; 1 John 4:1-3)
Ebionitism	C2	H+ D-	Judaizers	Jesus=human, therefore can't be God. Christ got the Spirit at his baptism; he was not preexistent.	Irenaeus ; Hippolytus ; Origen ; Eusebius	Jesus is fully divine; he is worthy of worship (John 1:1; 20:28; Heb. 13:8)
Gnosticism	C2	H- D-	Marcion	Not God, Not human: in between Heirarchy: God, Logos, Angels, Humans	Irenaeus ; Tertullian ; Hippolytus ; Justin Martyr ; Apostles' Creed	1 John 4:2
Adoptionism	C3	H+ D-	Theodotus	Jesus is by nature human - A man adopted by God as a son	<i>Antioch 268</i>	Jesus always God
Modalistic Monarchicism	C3	H- D+	Sabelius , Noetus of Smyrna	God <i>the Father</i> incarnate in Jesus	Origen ; Tertullian	Jesus separate from God but still God
Dynamic Monarchicism	C3	H+ D-	Theodotus	The human Jesus was indwelled by varying degrees of divinity.	<i>Antioch 268</i>	See Adoptionism
Arianism	C4	H+ D-	Arius , presbyter of Alexandria; Origen	Homoiousios : Jesus has appearance of God, is of <i>similar</i> substance. He is the first and highest created being.	Athanasius ; Ossius; Marcellus; Nicaea 325	Athanasius: Jesus homoousios –one substance with God; Only a divine Christ can save (Phil. 2:6; Rev. 1:8)
Appollinarianism	C4	H- D+	Apollinarius , bishop of Laodicea; Justin Martyr	Human body, Divine mind/soul; the divine Logos took the place of the human mind. Opposed use of theotokos . Only human nature died.	Vitalis; Damascus; Basil ; Theodosius; Gregory of Nazianzus ; Gregory of Nyssa ; Constantinople 381	Human mind & divine mind in human body
Nestorianism (as accused by opponents)	C5	H+ D+	Nestorius , bishop of Constantinople	1 moral being 2 people schizophrenic	Cyril of Alexandria ; Ephesus 431	2 natures in 1 person Indivisible
Eutychianism	C5	H- D-	Eutychians; Theodosius II	1 mixed nature after incarnation New Hybrid: neither human or divine	Flavian of Constantinople; Pope Leo; Theodoret; Eusebius of Dorylaeum; Chalcedon 451	2 natures: communication between them
Monophysitism	Until C7	H- D+		The human nature was swallowed by the divine nature to create a new third nature - a <i>tertium quid</i> .	<i>Constantinople 680</i>	2 Natures are separate

(H=Human nature, D=Divine nature)