

CANON FODDER

Canons from the Seven Ecumenical Councils

CANON FODDER

Canon:	A standard.
Fodder:	Coarse food.

The church in conflict occurs on several fronts:

- Matters of faith: Christology, Trinity
- Matters of power: Ecclesiology, territorial integrity of bishops
- Matters of conduct: sexual ethics, financial and property ethics

The Episcopal Church has been in crisis for over 30 years. The intensity of the conflict is increasing. The battles have included legislation of resolutions and canons. The church has become canon fodder on the battlefield of political correctness. It is being led by social norms of the day rather than being a light to the world.

It is useful to see what the ancient fathers had to say that is relevant to the issues facing us today. Our sin is not very original, as these extracts will show. This is primarily a collection of canons from the seven ecumenical councils. The canons of St. Basil are also included. Occasional remarks by translating scholars have been included.

This is intended to be a resource for other studies. References have been documented to ease the process of copying information into other reports.

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BRIEF HISTORICAL REMARKS

The Second Ecumenical Council, which is the First Council of Constantinople in 381 A.D., is interesting in the light of the culture wars currently engulfing the Episcopal Church. That council had some similarities to the 29 January 2000 meeting in Singapore. Here is some of the historical introduction by Percival in 1899.¹

1. It was not intended to be an Ecumenical Synod at all.
2. It was a local gathering of only one hundred and fifty bishops.
3. It was not summoned by the Pope, nor was he invited to it.
4. No diocese of the West was present either by representation or in the person of its bishop; neither the See of Rome, nor any other See.
5. It was a council of Saints. Cardinal Orsi, the Roman Historian, says: “Besides St. Gregory of Nyssa, and St. Peter of Sebaste, there were also at Constantinople on account of the Synod many other Bishops, remarkable either for the holiness of their life, or for their zeal for the faith, or for their learning, or for the eminence of their Sees.
6. It was presided over at first by St. Meletius, the bishop of Antioch who was bishop not in communion with Rome.
7. Its second president was St. Gregory Nazianzen, who was at that time liable to censure for a breach of the canons which forbade his translation to Constantinople.
8. Its action in continuing the Meletian Schism was condemned at Rome, and its Canons rejected for a thousand years.
9. Its canons were not placed in their natural position after those of Nice in the codex which was used at the Council of Chalcedon, although this was an Eastern codex.
10. Its Creed was not read nor mentioned, so far as the acts record, at the Council of Ephesus, fifty years afterwards.
11. Its title to being (as it undoubtedly is) the Second of the Ecumenical Synods rests upon its Creed having found a reception in the whole world. And now — mirabile dictu — an English scholar comes forward, ready to defend the proposition that the First Council of Constantinople never set forth any creed at all!

¹ Henry R. Percival, Historical Introduction to “The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381”, The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 339 - 340). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Not all provinces were able to send representatives to the Second Council of Nice (787 AD). “The other Patriarchates were represented, although on account of the Moslem tyranny the Patriarchs could not attend in person, nor could they even send proctors.”²

MATTERS OF FAITH

HERESY

History

Before the third of the Ecumenical Synods was called to meet, Pope Celestine had already convicted Nestorius of heresy and deposed and excommunicated him. When subsequently the synod was assembled, and before the papal legates had arrived, the Council met, treated Nestorius as in good standing, entirely ignoring the sentence already given by Rome, and by having examined the case (after summoning him three times to appear that he might be heard in his own defense), proceeded to sentence Nestorius, and immediately published the sentence. On the 10th of July (more than a fortnight later), the papal legates having arrived, a second session was held, at which they were told what had been done, all of which they were good enough to approve of.³

Combating heresy was an important mission of the church councils, and is the subject of Canon 1 of the 150 bishops meeting at the Second Ecumenical Council, held at Constantinople. The particular groups mentioned in this canon are: Eunomians, Semi-Arians, Sabellians, Marcellians, Photinians, and Apollinarians.⁴

The Synodical Letter of The Council of Constantinople, AD 382, addresses the problem of recovering from Nestorian heresy:

We indeed needed long leisure, time, and toil to restore the church once more, that so, like physicians healing the body after long sickness and expelling its disease by gradual treatment, we might bring her back to her ancient health of true religion. It is true that on the whole we seem to have been delivered from the violence of our persecutions and to be just now recovering the churches which, have for a long time been the prey of the heretics. But wolves are troublesome to us who, though they have been driven from the fold, yet harry the flock up and

² Henry R. Percival, “Introduction”, of “The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 989). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³ Henry R. Percival, “General Introduction: Concerning Ecumenical Councils in General”, The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 21 – 22). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 1 in “Canons of the One Hundred and Fifty Fathers Who Assembled at Constantinople During the Consulate of Those Illustrious Men, Flavius Eucherius and Flavius Evagrius”, in “The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381”, The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 356). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

down the glades, daring to hold rival assemblies, stirring seditious among the people, and shrinking from nothing which can do damage to the churches. So, as we have already said, we needs must labor all the longer.⁵

The condemnation of these heretics at Ephesus is said to have been due chiefly to the energy of St. Augustine, assisted very materially by a layman living in Constantinople by the name of Marius Mercator.⁶

Relations with Heretics

Canon 6 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch says that heretics are not permitted in the place of worship.⁷

Canon 32 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits receiving the blessings of heretics.⁸

Canon 33 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits praying with heretics or schismatics.⁹

Canon 34 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits a Christian from honoring a martyr for a heresy.¹⁰

Canon 39 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits feasting with the heathen or receiving festival offerings from them.¹¹

⁵ Henry R. Percival, "Synodical Letter", in "The Council of Constantinople, A.D. 382", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 388 and 390). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶ Henry R. Percival, "Excursus on Pelagianism", following Canon 4 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 459). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 6 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 271). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 32 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 315). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 33 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 315). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 34 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 316). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 39 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their

Reception of Heretics

Canon 7 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch says that former followers of heresy shall not be received until they have rejected every aspect of the heresy.¹²

Canon 8 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch says that baptism into heretical sects is invalid, and people converted from heresy must be rebaptized.¹³

Canon 5 of the synod at Ephesus declares void any attempts by Nestorius or his followers at restoring people to communion or former rank.¹⁴

Popes

The Third Council of Constantinople, the sixth of the Ecumenical Synods, excommunicated Pope Honorius, who had been dead for years, for holding and teaching the Monothelite heresy.¹⁵

Session 13 of The Sixth Ecumenical Council condemned Pope Honorius with the Monothelites as heretical.¹⁶ Session 16 pronounced anathema on Honorius.^{17 18}

Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 320). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹² Henry R. Percival, Canon 7 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 272). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 273). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 5 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 461). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵ Henry R. Percival, "General Introduction: Concerning Ecumenical Councils in General", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 22). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁶ Henry R. Percival, "The Sentence Against the Monothelites" in Session 13 of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council: The Third Council of Constantinople, A.D. 680 - 681", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 653 - 654). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁷ Henry R. Percival, "The Sentence Against the Monothelites" in Session 16 of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council: The Third Council of Constantinople, A.D. 680 - 681", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 654). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁸ Henry R. Percival, "Excursus on the Condemnation of Pope Honorius" in Session 16 of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council: The Third Council of

Bishops

Canon 88 of the African Church deposes Bishop Maximian.¹⁹

Canon 119 states that a bishop which has snatched a diocese from heresy for three years may keep that diocese.²⁰

Clergy

Canon 10 of the first ecumenical council calls for clergy to be deposed if they had lapsed (renounced the faith) prior to ordination, even if the bishop knew of those offenses at the time of ordination.²¹ This canon was written in 325 A.D. and addressed apostasy during the persecutions, the last of which ended 12 years earlier.

Canon 4 of the synod at Ephesus deposes clergy who fall into heresy.²²

“But because the adversary Satan allows no rest, he has raised up the very ministers of Christ against him, as if armed and carrying weapons, etc.”²³

Constantinople, A.D. 680 - 681”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 654). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 88 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 923). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 119 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 956). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 10 of “The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia”, The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 93). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²² Henry R. Percival, Canon 4 in “The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 458). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²³ Henry R. Percival, “The Prosphonicus to the Emperor” in Session 16 of “The Sixth Ecumenical Council: The Third Council of Constantinople, A.D. 680 - 681”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 659). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

LAPSING, RETURNING TO PAGANISM AFTER BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

Canon 1 of The Council of Ancyra bars clergy from sacerdotal functions if they have denied the faith under torture and offered sacrifice other than to God.²⁴

PRACTICING DIVINATION, SORCERY, LUSTRATIONS

Canon 24 of The Council of Ancyra punishes those who practice divination, inventions of sorceries, or lustrations, to 5 years penance.²⁵

Canon 36 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits “mathematicians” (those who hold that celestial bodies rule the universe) from being clergymen.²⁶

SALVATION, REGENERATION, BAPTISM

Canon 84 of the Council of Trullo permits infant baptism.²⁷

Canon 45 of the African Church establishes that even penitent actors may not be denied reconciliation.²⁸

Canon 110 of the African Church requires baptism of infants for regeneration from original sin inherited from Adam.²⁹

²⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 1 of “The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 165). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 24 of “The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 189). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 36 of “Synod of Laodicea”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 318). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 84 of “The Canons of the Council of Trullo” in “The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692”, of “The Sixth Ecumenical Council”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 763). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 45 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 876). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

²⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 110 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 947 - 948). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

MATTERS OF POWER

CONFLICTS OF ECCLESIOLOGY

Scheduling, Attendance, Conduct of Synods

Canon 5 of the first ecumenical council addresses excommunication, which was considered part of church life. Cases of excommunication were to be reviewed by a synod of bishops twice a year: once before Lent, and once before autumn.³⁰

Canon 19 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council requires bishops to meet in Synod twice a year to settle problems.³¹

The Fifth Ecumenical Council, the Second Council of Constantinople, was convened without the assent of the See of Rome.³²

Authority of Synods

Canon 6 of the synod at Ephesus declares that laymen who disregard the decrees of the synod to be excommunicated, and clergy who disregard the decrees are deposed.³³

Canon 7 of the synod at Ephesus declares it unlawful to hold faith set forth differently than the Council of Nicea.³⁴

The Fourth Ecumenical Council, in Session 3, excommunicated Dioscorus for disregard of divine canons, disobedience of the synod, and crimes.³⁵

³⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 5 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 72 - 73). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 19 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 553). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³² Henry R. Percival, "Historical Introduction" to "The Fifth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Constantinople, A.D. 553", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 581). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 6 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 462). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 7 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 463). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Session 12 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council removed two bishops from office for uncanonical acts.³⁶

Canon 5 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council declares that bishops and clergy are still subject to canons as they go from city to city.³⁷

BISHOP SELECTION

Canon 2 of the Seventh Ecumenical Council requires that a person who is to be ordained a bishop must resolve to observe the canons.³⁸

Canon 3 of the Ecumenical Seventh Council prohibits secular authority from having a role in choosing a bishop.³⁹

TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

Canon 2 of the 150 bishops meeting at the Second Ecumenical Council, held at Constantinople, asserted territorial integrity of bishops, except among heathen nations, which are to be governed according to customs prevailing at the times of the Fathers. Territorial integrity included prohibition on ordination and enthronement by other bishops except by invitation of the diocesan.⁴⁰ An extreme reading might imply that

³⁵ Henry R. Percival, "The Condemnation Sent by the Holy and Ecumenical Synod to Dioscorus", Session 3 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 510). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³⁶ Henry R. Percival, "The Condemnation Sent by the Holy and Ecumenical Synod to Dioscorus", Session 12 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 521). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 5 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 531). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 1042). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

³⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 1044 - 1045). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 in "Canons of the One Hundred and Fifty Fathers Who Assembled at Constantinople During the Consulate of Those Illustrious Men, Flavius Eucherius and Flavius Evagrius", in "The

Roman Catholic bishops would not be permitted to perform sacerdotal or ecclesiastical acts without the invitation of Protestant Episcopal bishops in the United States, or vice versa. This certainly would apply to the AMiA approach unless the case were made that the United States is an heathen land. John Carroll (1735-1815), consecrated bishop of Baltimore in 1790, was the first Catholic bishop in the US.⁴¹ In Aberdeen, Scotland, 14 November 1784, Samuel Seabury (1729-1796) was consecrated to the Episcopate by the Bishop and the Bishop Coadjutor of Aberdeen and the Bishop of Ross and Caithness. He thus became part of the unbroken chain of bishops that links the Church today with the Church of the Apostles.⁴² In 1789 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States confirmed his position and he became presiding bishop.⁴³ Thus, the Roman Catholics did not have a bishop in the United States until a year later.

Canon 8 of the synod at Ephesus prohibits bishops from taking control of diocese or provinces not under their original authority or of their predecessor.⁴⁴

Canon 6 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council requires that no one may be ordained for ministry at large.⁴⁵

Canon 20 of the Council of Trullo declares it is unlawful for a bishop to teach in any city that does not belong to him.⁴⁶

Canon 3 of the Council of Sardica (A.D. 343 or 344) prohibits a bishop from passing from one province to another without being invited. If two bishops in a province are in dispute, they should not call an arbiter from another province. A bishop may write to

First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381", The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 364). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴¹ Gregory, "Growth and Tension: Catholicism in C19th America", Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, TX, <http://www.etss.edu/hts/hts5/notes1.htm>, 30 November 2002.

⁴² James E. Kiefer, "Consecration of Samuel Seabury, Bishop (14 November 1784)" in "Biographical Sketches of memorable Christians of the past", <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bio/282.html>, 30 November 2002.

⁴³ "Seabury, Samuel", The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia (2000).

<http://www.factmonster.com/ce6/people/A0844178.html> 30 November 2002.

⁴⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 in "The Canons of the Two Hundreded Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 469). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 6 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 532). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 20 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 706). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Rome to have a case retried. The Pope may appoint arbiters from neighboring provinces.⁴⁷

Canon 23 requires a bishop that goes over seas to first get a letter commendatory from his own primate.

Canon 53 of the African Church prohibits dioceses from receiving a bishop that is not received by its own bishop.⁴⁸

Canon 74 of the African Church prohibits a bishop appointed as intercessor from becoming the see of that diocese.⁴⁹

Canon 98 of the African Church prohibits people who have never had a bishop from receiving a bishop unless permission is granted by the council of each province, the primates, and the bishop of the diocese.⁵⁰

Canon 10 of the Ecumenical Seventh Council prohibits a cleric from going to another diocese without permission of the bishop of the diocese he is leaving.⁵¹

AUTHORITY OF BISHOPS

Canon 8 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council excommunicates anyone, including laymen, who arrogantly rebels against the rule of their bishop.⁵²

⁴⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the Council of Sardica" in "The Council of Sardica, A.D. 343 or 344", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 786). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 53 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 884 - 885). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁴⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 74 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 910). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 98 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 937 - 938). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 10 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 1055). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵² Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The

Canon 18 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council declares that clergy who conspire against their bishop are to be deposed.⁵³

TRIAL OF BISHOPS

Canon 4 of the 150 bishops meeting at the Second Ecumenical Council, held at Constantinople, declares Maximus of Constantinople to not be a bishop, and invalidates his acts of consecration of clergy.⁵⁴ He sought to combine the teachings of Cynics with Christianity.⁵⁵ This is an example of bishops of neighboring provinces correcting errors of an errant province.

Canon 6 of the 150 bishops meeting at the Second Ecumenical Council, held at Constantinople, addresses how to handle charges brought against bishops. Only uncondemned, unaccused, orthodox communicants are permitted to bring ecclesiastical charges against a bishop. Those who do must themselves be willing to be tried.⁵⁶

Canon 2 of the synod at Ephesus declared that bishops who joined Nestorius in apostasy are deposed from office and the priesthood.⁵⁷

Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 535). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 18 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 552). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 4 in "Canons of the One Hundred and Fifty Fathers Who Assembled at Constantinople During the Consulate of Those Illustrious Men, Flavius Eucherius and Flavius Evagrius", in "The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381", The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 370). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁵ Edmund Venables, "Maximus the Cynic", in commentary included by Henry R. Percival on Canon 4 in "Canons of the One Hundred and Fifty Fathers Who Assembled at Constantinople During the Consulate of Those Illustrious Men, Flavius Eucherius and Flavius Evagrius", in "The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381", The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 371). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 6 in "Canons of the One Hundred and Fifty Fathers Who Assembled at Constantinople During the Consulate of Those Illustrious Men, Flavius Eucherius and Flavius Evagrius", in "The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381", The Second Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 377 - 378). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 457). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume

Canon 3 of the synod at Ephesus reinstates clergy that were inhibited by Nestorius or his followers, and forbids clergy from submitting to deposed bishops.⁵⁸

Canon 21 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council requires the character of clergy and laymen to be examined before their charges against a bishop are heard.⁵⁹

Canon 8 of the council at Carthage rejects any accusation against a bishop that is made by a criminal.⁶⁰

Canon 12 of the African Church requires charges against a bishop to be heard by at least 12 other bishops; charges against a priest to be heard by at least 6 bishops, including his own; charges against a deacon to be heard by at least 3 bishops.⁶¹

Canon 19 of the African Church requires that if a bishop be accused, then the charges must be considered by the primate of the bishop, who may appoint judges to hear the case.⁶²

ORDINATION ISSUES

Canon 9 of the First Ecumenical Council calls for clergy to be deposed if they committed a crime before ordination.⁶³

14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 in "The Canons of the Two Hundred Holy and Blessed Fathers Who Met at Ephesus", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 457). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁵⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 21 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 556). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 840). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 12 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 843 - 844). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶² Henry R. Percival, Canon 19 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 851). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 9 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical

Canon 11 of the Council of Neocaesarea requires a man to be at least 30 years old before being ordained a presbyter.⁶⁴

Canon 3 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch says a recently baptized ought not to be ordained.⁶⁵

Canon 11 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch forbids women to be elected presbyters.⁶⁶

Canon 14 of the Council of Trullo requires a person to be 25 years old before being ordained deacon, 30 before being ordained a priest, and 40 before becoming a deaconess.⁶⁷

Canon 10 of the Council of Sardica restrains hasty ordination of politically attractive candidates to become bishop or lower orders.⁶⁸

Canon 18 of the African Church requires that people should be taught the canons when they are ordained.⁶⁹

Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 91 - 92). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 11 of "The Canons of the Council Of Neocaesarea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 202). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 269). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 11 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 277). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 14 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 700). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 10 of "The Canons of the Council of Sardica" in "The Council of Sardica, A.D. 343 or 344", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 802). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁶⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 18 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 849 - 850). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 36 of the African Church requires all members of a candidate's household be Christians before the candidate is ordained.⁷⁰

Canon 90 of St. Basil restrains the ordaining of people to the clergy in time of war, noting that people seek this to avoid conscription into the military. He "complains of the want of discipline of the multiplying of the clergy, and that without due examination and enquiry into their morals;... that the number of the inferior clergy was unreasonably increased, especially in time of war, when men got into orders to avoid the press".⁷¹

PRIEST CONFLICTS WITH BISHOP

Canon 11 of the African Church permits a priest who has been disciplined by his bishop to appeal to other local bishops, but the priest may not induce schism.⁷²

Canon 28 of the African Church excommunicates clergy in dispute with his bishop who thinks he can appeal across the sea to another province. They are to appeal their case to neighboring bishops.⁷³

Canon 125 of the African Church restricts clergy to appeal decisions by their bishop only to their own province, and not to appeal over seas.⁷⁴

⁷⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 36 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 869). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 80 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1152). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷² Henry R. Percival, Canon 11 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 843). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 28 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 860). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 125 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 960 - 961). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

PRIESTS CHANGING DIOCESES

Canon 17 of the Council of Trullo prohibits a priest from leaving a church under one bishop to go to another bishop without permission. If this is done, both the priest and the receiving bishop are to be deposed.⁷⁵

Canon 13 of the Council of Sardica prohibits a bishop from receiving into communion a priest excommunicated by his own bishop.⁷⁶

Canon 54 of the African Church prohibits a bishop from receiving a cleric from another diocese without the permission of that diocese' bishop.⁷⁷

PRIESTS SERVING MULTIPLE CHURCHES

Canon 15 of the Ecumenical Seventh Council prohibits a cleric from serving two churches (yoked parishes).⁷⁸

TRIAL OF PRIESTS

Canon 128 of the African Church prohibits accusations against clergy from excommunicated persons from being considered.⁷⁹

Canon 130 of the African Church prohibits an accuser who fails to prove one charge from giving evidence on another charge.⁸⁰

⁷⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 17 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 703). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 13 of "The Canons of the Council of Sardica" in "The Council of Sardica, A.D. 343 or 344", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 807). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 54 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 886 - 887). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 15 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 1061). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁷⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 128 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 964). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Canon 5 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who teach that the House of God and the assemblies in the House of God are to be despised.⁸¹

Canon 6 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who hold assemblies outside the House of God and perform ecclesiastical acts there.⁸²

Canon 2 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch condemn those who assemble in private houses to pray with those who do not pray in church.⁸³

Canon 88 of the Council of Trullo prohibits beasts from being brought into church, except for extreme circumstances to preserve its life.⁸⁴

Canon 97 of the Council of Trullo deposes clergy and excommunicates lay people who have sex in church, or in any other manner make sacred places common.⁸⁵

WORSHIP SERVICES AND LITURGY

Canon 59 of the Synod of Laodicea prohibits reading or singing of psalms written by private individuals or reading of uncanonical books.⁸⁶

⁸⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 130 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 965). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 5 of "The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 216). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸² Henry R. Percival, Canon 6 of "The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 217). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 of "The Canons of the Blessed and Holy Fathers Assembled at Antioch in Syria", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 237 - 238). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 88 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 766). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 97 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 773). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 19 of the Council of Trullo requires the faithful teaching of doctrine.⁸⁷

The Convocation of Canterbury, A.D. 1571, remarked: "The clergy will be careful to teach nothing in their sermons to be religiously held and believed by the people except what is agreeable to the doctrine of the Old and New Testament, and what the Catholic Fathers and Ancient Bishops have collected out of the same."⁸⁸

Canon 32 of the Council of Trullo requires water mixed with wine to be used at communion.⁸⁹

Canon 57 of the Council of Trullo prohibits offering honey and milk on the altar.⁹⁰

Canon 74 of the Council of Trullo prohibits holding agape (love-feasts) in the church.⁹¹

Canon 90 of the Council of Trullo prohibits kneeling in prayer on the Lord's Day until evening.⁹²

⁸⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 59 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 335). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 19 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 705). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸⁸ Henry R. Percival, "Convocation of Canterbury, A.D. 1571", Notes on Canon 19 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 706). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁸⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 32 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 715 - 716). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 57 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 742). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 74 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 755). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹² Henry R. Percival, Canon 90 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 767). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 24 of the African Church lists books of the Old and New Testament. It restricts readings in church to come only from this canon.⁹³

Canon 103 of the African Church permits prayers approved by the synod to be used by all, prohibits prayers that are contrary to the faith, and requires that only prayers collected by the learned, may be said at the altar.⁹⁴

WOMEN AND WORSHIP

Canon 44 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch prohibits women from going to the altar.⁹⁵

Canon 15 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council requires a woman be at least 40 years old before receiving the laying-on of hands to be a deaconess, and she must remain unmarried.⁹⁶

Canon 70 of the Council of Trullo prohibits women from speaking in church.⁹⁷

SABBATH AND DAY OF REST

Canon 29 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch requires Christians to work on Saturday, and rest on Sunday.⁹⁸

⁹³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 24 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 855 - 856). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 103 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 942). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 44 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 323). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 15 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 548). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 70 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 752). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

⁹⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 29 of "Synod of Laodicea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 313). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

MATTERS OF CONDUCT

EATING MEAT

Canon 2 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who condemn eating meat.⁹⁹

SLAVERY

Canon 3 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who teach a slave to run away rather than to serve his master with goodwill and all honor.¹⁰⁰ [I did not like finding this one.]

Canon 85 of the Council of Trullo declares that a slave freed by his master in front of three witnesses is no longer a slave.¹⁰¹

Canon 64 of the African Church encourages public celebration of manumissions in church, if permitted by the Emperor.¹⁰²

CONFLICTS OF SEXUAL ETHICS

Sex Before Marriage, Cohabitation

Canon 26 of St. Basil: "Fornication is neither marriage, nor the beginning of marriage. If it may be, it is better that they who have committed fornication together be parted; but if they be passionate lovers, let them not separate, for fear of what is worse."¹⁰³

⁹⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 of "The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 213). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 214). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 85 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 764). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰² Henry R. Percival, Canon 64 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 899). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 26 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (pages 1139 - 1140). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 69 of St. Basil prohibits a man from having sex with his fiancée.¹⁰⁴

Marriage

Canon 1 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who condemn a woman because she is married.¹⁰⁵

Canon 9 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns those who abstain from marriage because they abhor marriage, rather than because of a positive virtue of virginity.¹⁰⁶

Canon 10 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns virgins who condemn those living in marriage.¹⁰⁷

Canon 10 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Antioch forbids a Christian from marrying a heretic.¹⁰⁸

Abortion or making drugs for abortion

Canon 21 of The Council of Ancyra punishes a woman by 10 years of penance who commits adultery and destroys what they have conceived, or makes drugs for abortion.¹⁰⁹

Canon 91 of the Council of Trullo states: “THOSE who give drugs for procuring abortion, and those who receive poisons to kill the fetus, are subjected to the penalty of murder.”¹¹⁰

¹⁰⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 69 of “The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium”, in “Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo”, (page 1148). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 1 of “The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 212). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 9 of “The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 219). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 10 of “The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 220). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 10 of “Synod of Laodicea”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 276). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁰⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 21 of “The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 187). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Ancient Epitome Of Canon 91

Whoever gives or receives medicine to produce abortion is a homicide.

See Canon XXI. of Ancyra, and Canon II. of St. Basil; to wit, “She who purposely destroys the fetus, shall suffer the punishment of murder. And we pay no attention to the subtle distinction as to whether the fetus was formed or unformed. And by this not only is justice satisfied for the child that should have been born, but also for her who prepared for herself the snares, since the women very often die who make such experiments.”¹¹¹

Canon 8 of St. Basil: “He that kills another with a sword, or hurls an axe at his own wife and kills her, is guilty of willful murder; not he who throws a stone at a dog, and undesignedly kills a man, or who corrects one with a rod, or scourge, in order to reform him, or who kills a man in his own defense, when he only designed to hurt him. But the man, or woman, is a murderer that gives a philtum, if the man that takes it die upon it; so are they who take medicines to procure abortion; and so are they who kill on the highway, and rapparees.”¹¹²

Canon 65 of St. Basil refers to those who concoct abortifacients: “He that confesses conjuration, or pharmacy, shall do penance as long as a murderer.”¹¹³

Divorce

Canon 14 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra condemns a woman who stays away from her husband and seeks to leave a marriage she abhors.¹¹⁴

¹¹⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 91 of “The Canons of the Council of Trullo” in “The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692”, of “The Sixth Ecumenical Council”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 768). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹¹ Henry R. Percival, “Ancient Epitome of Canon 91”, in Notes on Canon 91 of “The Canons of the Council of Trullo” in “The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692”, of “The Sixth Ecumenical Council”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 768). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹² Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 of “The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium”, in “Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo”, (page 1135). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 65 of “The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium”, in “Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo”, (page 1147). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Avoidance of Scandal

The third canon of the First Ecumenical Council prohibits any clergy from living with anyone that would bring scandal due to lust. It is clear from the context that, by this time, clergy were unmarried and celibate.¹¹⁵

Canon 5 of the Council of Trullo prohibits any priest from having a woman or maidservant, except those above suspicion (mother, grandmother, etc).¹¹⁶

Canon 47 of the Council of Trullo prohibits a nun from spending a night in a monastery, and a monk from spending a night in a convent, so that scandal may not be evident.¹¹⁷

Canon 38 of the African Church prohibits clergy from visiting widows or virgins alone.¹¹⁸

Canon 18 of the Ecumenical Seventh Council prohibits a bishop from living with any woman, including mother, sister, or daughter, in order to be completely above suspicion of scandal.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 14 of "The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 224). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 68). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 5 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 684). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 47 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 732). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 38 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 870 - 871). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹¹⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 18 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 1066). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Sexual Misconduct by Christians

Sex with a Woman Dedicated to God

Canon 4 of the Council of Trullo deposes any bishop, presbyter, deacon, sub-deacon, lector, cantor, or door-keeper who has had intercourse with a woman dedicated to God. A Layman who has done this is to be cut off.¹²⁰

Marriage or Sex with Family Members

Canon 67 of St. Basil: "Incest with a sister is punished as murder."¹²¹

Canon 75 of St. Basil prohibits a man from having sex with his half-sister.¹²²

Canon 76 of St. Basil prohibits a man from marrying his son's wife.¹²³

Digamy (Sequential Polygamy)

Canon 7 of the Council of Neocaesarea prohibits a presbyter to be present at a second wedding of a person (digamist).¹²⁴

Canon 3 of The Council of Trullo prohibits clergy from second marriages.¹²⁵

¹²⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 4 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 684). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 67 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1147). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²² Henry R. Percival, Canon 75 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1149). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 76 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1149). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 7 of "The Canons of the Council Of Neocaesarea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 198). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 680 - 681). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 102 of the African Church prohibits divorced people from marrying someone else.¹²⁶

Canon 77 of St. Basil prohibits a man who divorces his wife from marrying another woman.¹²⁷

Canon 78 of St. Basil prohibits a man from successively marrying sisters.¹²⁸

Polygamy

Canon 3 of the Council of Neocaesarea condemns polygamy.¹²⁹

Canon 80 of St. Basil prohibits polygamy.¹³⁰

Adultery

Canon 20 of The Council of Ancyra punishes a man or woman who commits adultery to 7 years of penance before restoration to full communion.¹³¹

Pornography

Canon 100 of the Council of Trullo condemns creation of pornography.¹³²

¹²⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 102 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 941). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 77 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1149). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 78 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1149). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹²⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 3 of "The Canons of the Council Of Neocaesarea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 194). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 80 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1149). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 20 of "The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 186). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 63 of the African Church protects converts who were actors from being compelled to return to the ludicrous arts.¹³³ More precisely, *“Whoever has turned away from the stage to adopt an honest life, shall not be led back thereto.”*¹³⁴

Cross-Dressing

Canon 13 of the Holy Fathers assembled at Gangra prohibits women from wearing men’s clothing.¹³⁵

Sodomy

Canon 17 of The Council of Ancyra punishes those who have committed sodomy and have an infectious disease, who have infected others, to remain outside the church and pray with the penitents.¹³⁶

Canon 7 of St. Basil: “They who have committed sodomy with men or brutes, murderers, wizards, adulterers, and idolaters, have been thought worthy of the same punishment; therefore observe the same method with these which you do with others. We ought not to make any doubt of receiving those who have repented thirty years for the uncleanness which they committed through ignorance; for their ignorance pleads their pardon, and their willingness in confessing it; therefore command them to be forthwith received, especially if they have tears to prevail on your tenderness, and have [since their lapse] led such a life as to deserve your compassion.”¹³⁷

¹³² Henry R. Percival, Canon 100 of “The Canons of the Council of Trullo” in “The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692”, of “The Sixth Ecumenical Council”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 775). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 63 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 898). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁴ Henry R. Percival, Ancient Epitome of Canon 63 of “The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419”, from “The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage”, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 899). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 13 of “The Canons of the Holy Fathers Assembled at Gangra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 224). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 17 of “The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra”, The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 181). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 7 of “The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium”, in “Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not

Canon 62 of St. Basil: "He that abuses himself with mankind, shall do the penance of an adulterer."¹³⁸

Beastiality

Canon 16 of The Council of Ancyra punishes those who have committed sodomy with man or beast, for different periods of time depending on their age when the offense occurred.¹³⁹

Canon 63 of St. Basil: "And so shall he who abuses himself with beasts, if they voluntarily confess it."¹⁴⁰

Sexual Misconduct Prior to Ordination

Canon 8 of the Council of Neocaesarea prohibits ordination of a man whose wife has committed adultery. If a clergyman's wife commit adultery, the clergyman must cease ministry.¹⁴¹

Sexual Misconduct After Ordination

The second canon of the First Ecumenical Council calls for the removal of clergy who have been convicted by two or three witnesses of sensual sin.¹⁴²

having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1135). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 62 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1146). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹³⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 16 of "The Canons of the Council Of Ancyra", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 180). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 63 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1147). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 8 of "The Canons of the Council Of Neocaesarea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 199 - 200). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴² Henry R. Percival, Canon 2 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 66). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Canon 1 of the Council of Neocaesarea condemns clergy that have committed fornication or adultery to being cast out of communion.¹⁴³

Canon 77 of the First Ecumenical Council calls for a bishop to be deposed without hope of restoration to office if he commits adultery or other similar crime.¹⁴⁴

Canon 86 of the Council of Trullo deposes clergy who brings up or procures a harlot.¹⁴⁵

Castration

The first canon of the First Ecumenical Council removed people from the clergy who have castrated themselves.¹⁴⁶

Public Life

Civil Courts

Canon 67 of the African Church directs sending letters seeking assistance from civil courts against enemies of the church.¹⁴⁷

Public Office

Canon 7 of the Fourth Ecumenical Council prohibits clergy from accepting military or public office.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 1 of "The Canons of the Council Of Neocaesarea", The First Ecumenical Council, in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 192). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 77 of "The Captions Of The Arabic Canons Attributed To The Council Of Nice", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 148). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 86 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 765). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁶ Henry R. Percival, Canon 1 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 62). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁷ Henry R. Percival, Canon 67 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (pages 902 - 903). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁴⁸ Henry R. Percival, Canon 7 of "The Fourth Ecumenical Council: The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451", in "The Tome of St. Leo", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 533). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

Military

Canon 12 of the First Ecumenical Council condemns military service performed under a requirement of heathenism.¹⁴⁹ Licinius required from his soldiers a formal apostasy; compelled them, for example, to take part in the heathen sacrifices which were held in the camps, and dismissed from his service those who would not apostatize. Military life itself was not considered unchristian, as evidenced by Cornelius.

Canon 93 of the Council of Trullo: IF the wife of a man who has gone away and does not appear, cohabit with another before she is assured of the death of the first, she is an adulteress. The wives of soldiers who have married husbands who do not appear are in the same case; as are also they who on account of the wanderings of their husbands do not wait for their return. But the circumstance here has some excuse, in that the suspicion of his death becomes very great. But she who in ignorance has married a man who at the time was deserted by his wife, and then is dismissed because his first wife returns to him, has indeed committed fornication, but through ignorance; therefore she is not prevented from marrying, but it is better if she remain as she is. If a soldier shall return after a long time, and find his wife on account of his long absence has been united to another man, if he so wishes, he may receive his own wife [back again], pardon being extended in consideration of their ignorance both to her and to the man who took her home in second marriage.¹⁵⁰

Canon 13 of St. Basil: "Our fathers did not think that killing in war was murder; yet I think it advisable for such as have been guilty of it to forbear communion three years."¹⁵¹

Canon 36 of St. Basil: "A soldier's wife marrying after the long absence of her husband, but before she is certified of his death, is more pardonable than another woman, because it is more credible that he may be dead."¹⁵²

¹⁴⁹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 12 of "The Canons of the 318 Holy Fathers Assembled in the City of Nice, in Bithynia", The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 99). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵⁰ Henry R. Percival, Canon 93 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 769). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵¹ Henry R. Percival, Canon 13 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1137). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵² Henry R. Percival, Canon 36 of "The First Canonical Epistle of Our Holy Father Basil, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia to Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium", in "Appendix: Containing Canons and Rulings Not having Conciliar Origin but Approved by Name in Canon II of the Synod in Trullo", (page 1141). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

PROPERTY AND FINANCE

Canon 35 of the Council of Trullo is a precedent for the hierarchical stewardship of church property.¹⁵³

Canon 33 of the African Church prohibits presbyters from selling church property. Bishops may not sell church property without the knowledge of the council or presbyters.¹⁵⁴

Canon 17 of the Ecumenical Seventh Council prohibits building programs if the resources are not already available to complete the work.¹⁵⁵

¹⁵³ Henry R. Percival, Canon 35 of "The Canons of the Council of Trullo" in "The Quinisext Council, A.D. 692", of "The Sixth Ecumenical Council", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 720). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵⁴ Henry R. Percival, Canon 33 of "The Code of the Canons of the African Church A.D. 419", from "The Canons of the 217 Blessed Fathers Who Assembled at Carthage", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 865). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)

¹⁵⁵ Henry R. Percival, Canon 17 of "The Canons of the Holy and Ecumenical Seventh Council", of "The Seventh Ecumenical Council: The Second Council at Nice, A.D. 787", in The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church: Their Canons and Dogmatic Decrees (page 1064). The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Volume 14, edited by Philip Schaff. The Master Christian Library, Version 5, AGES Software (1997)