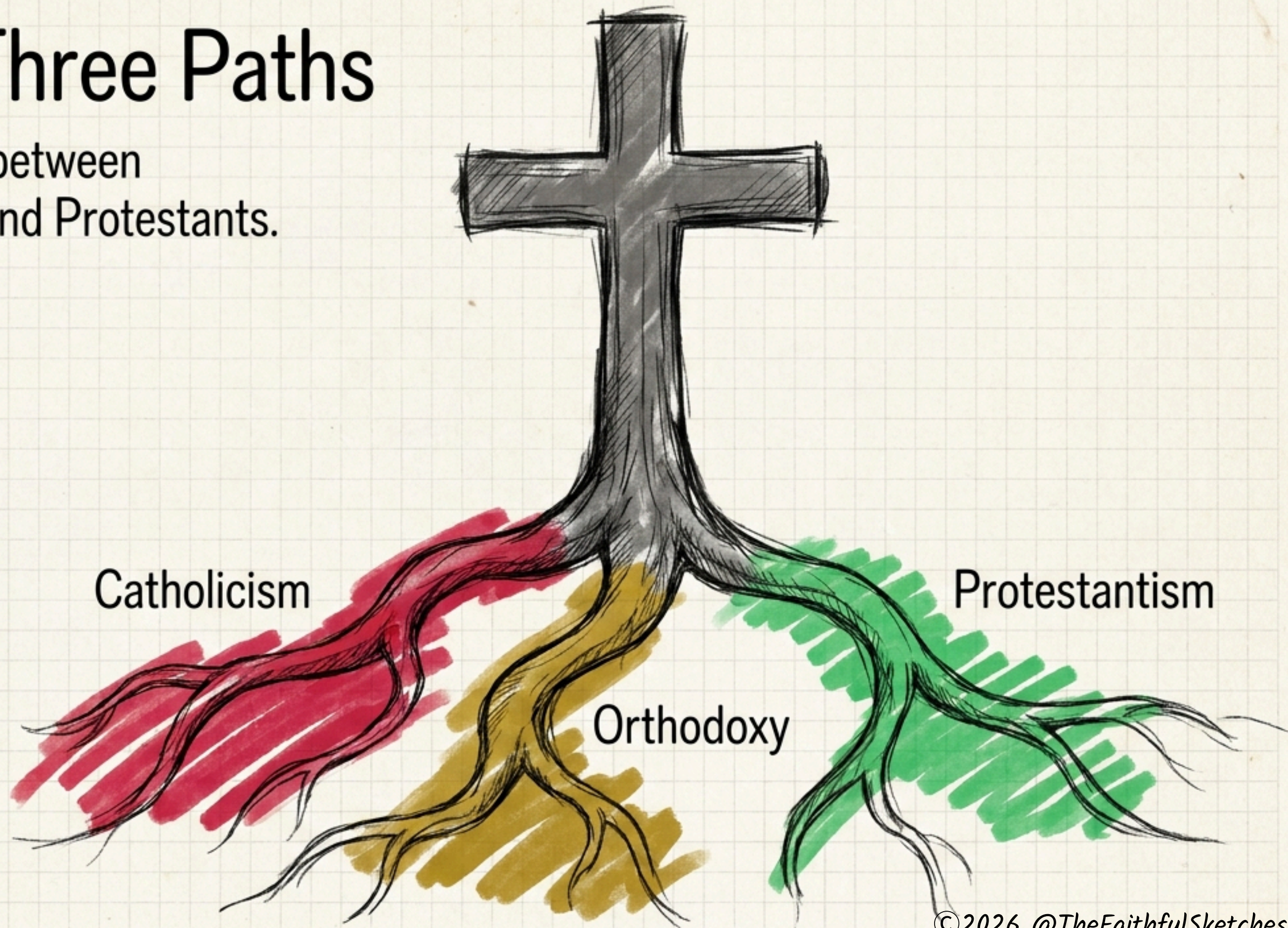


One Faith, Three Paths

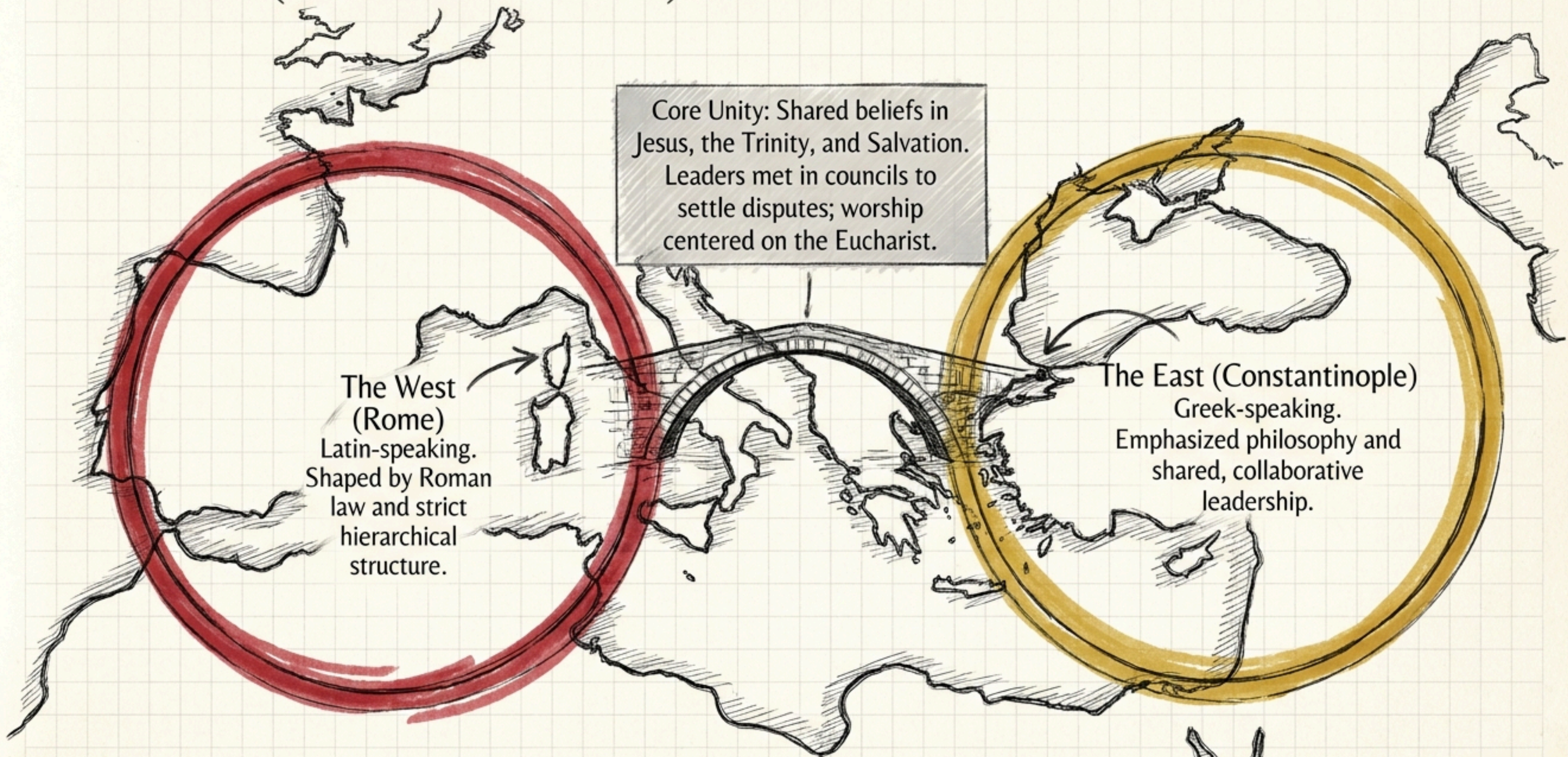
The actual difference between Catholics, Orthodox, and Protestants.

What is the actual difference between Catholics, Orthodox, and Protestants?

A visual guide to 2,000 years of faith, disagreement, and the search for truth.



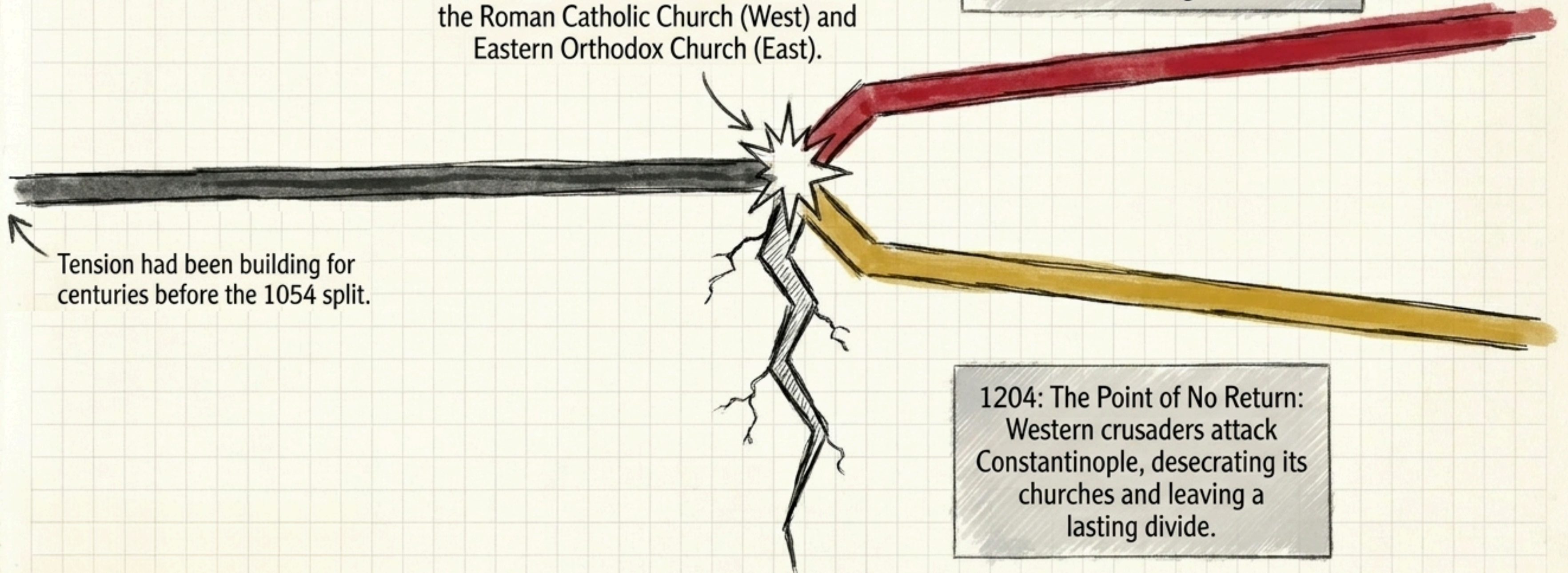
A Unified (But Not Uniform) Foundation



The Day the Church Split in Two

1054: The Great Schism
Both sides formally excommunicate each other. The Christian world divides into the Roman Catholic Church (West) and Eastern Orthodox Church (East).

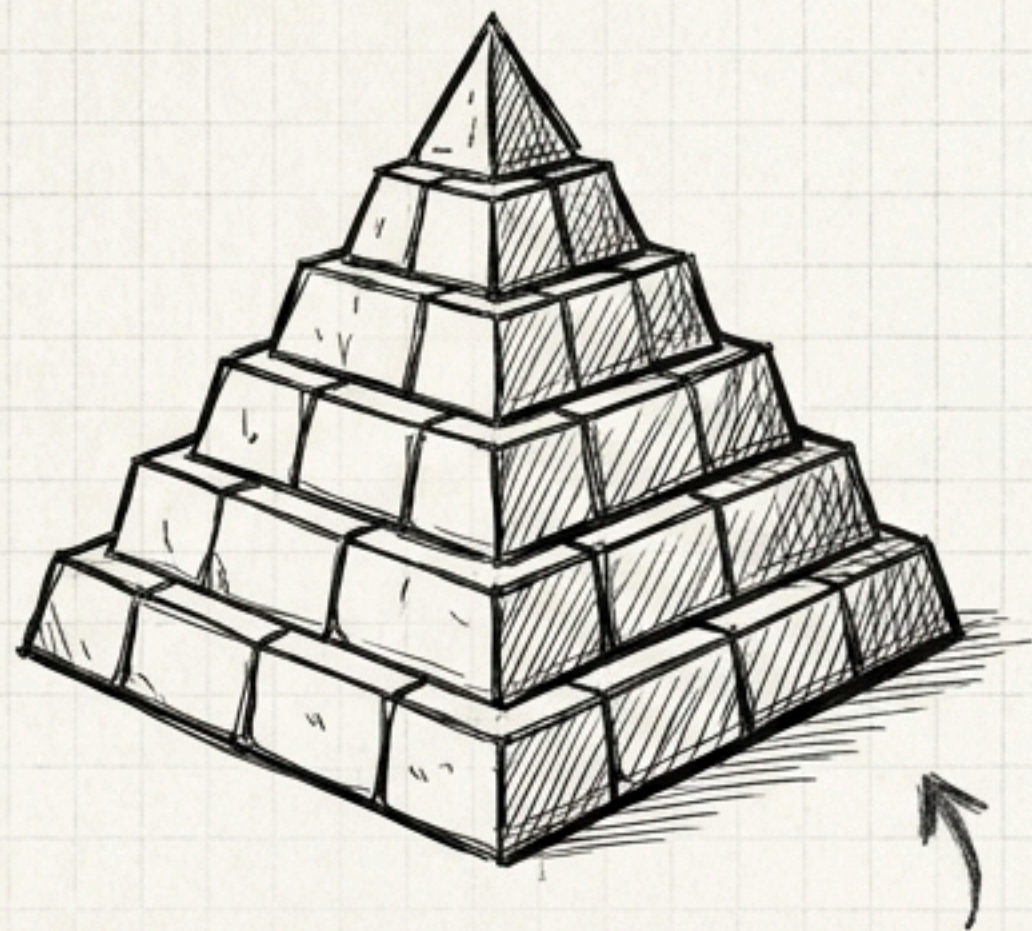
The Filioque Dispute: The West added the phrase 'and the Son' to the Nicene Creed. The East objected, arguing no single region had the authority to change a church-wide agreement.



The Battle for the Final Word

Western, Roman Catholic

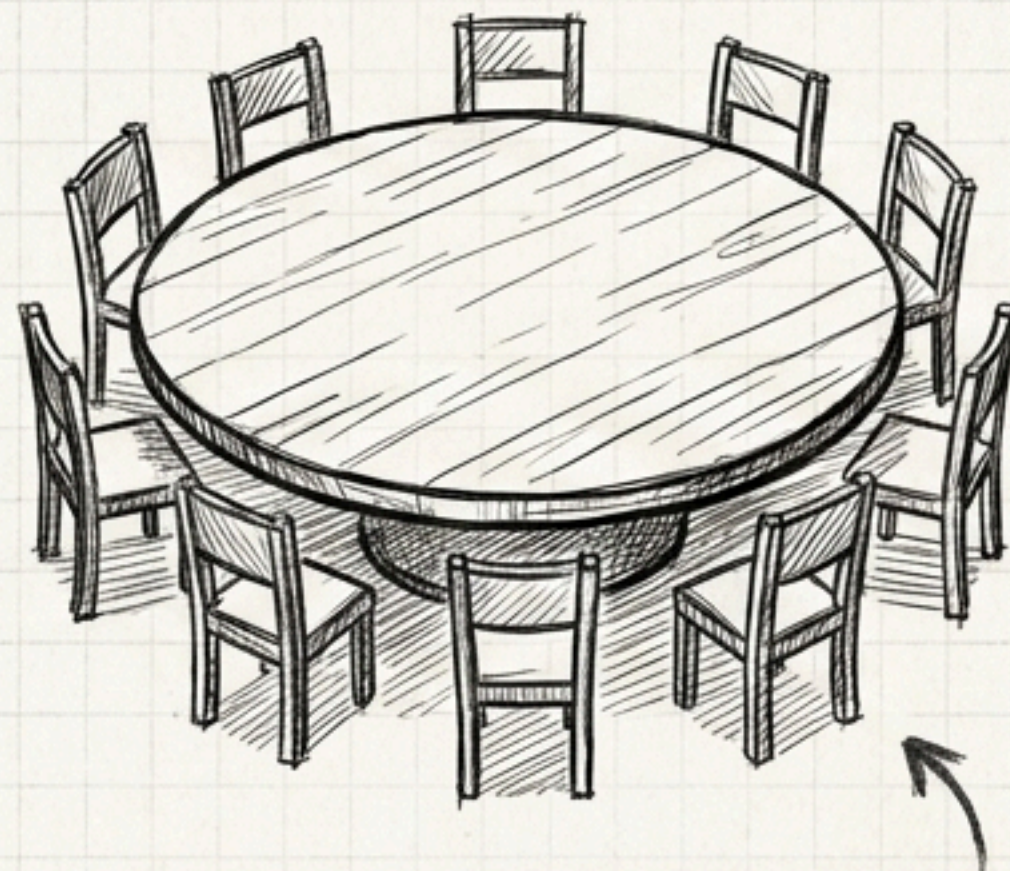
Centralized Authority



The Pope (Bishop of Rome) claims universal authority over all Christians as the visible head of the church and successor of the Apostle Peter.

Eastern, Orthodox

Conciliar Model



Bishops govern together in shared councils. No single leader holds universal authority over the entire church.

Guilt vs. Sickness: The Theology of Salvation



The Courtroom

Sin is understood in legal terms. Salvation focuses heavily on guilt, debt, and forgiveness.



The Hospital

Sin is understood as a sickness. Salvation is a process of healing and transformation (*Theosis* — becoming more like God).

Structure vs. Mystery




Liturgy is highly structured and globally consistent. Maintains clerical celibacy and uses unleavened bread.




Emphasizes continuity with ancient practices. Uses icons, incense, chanting, and leavened bread to create deep reverence.

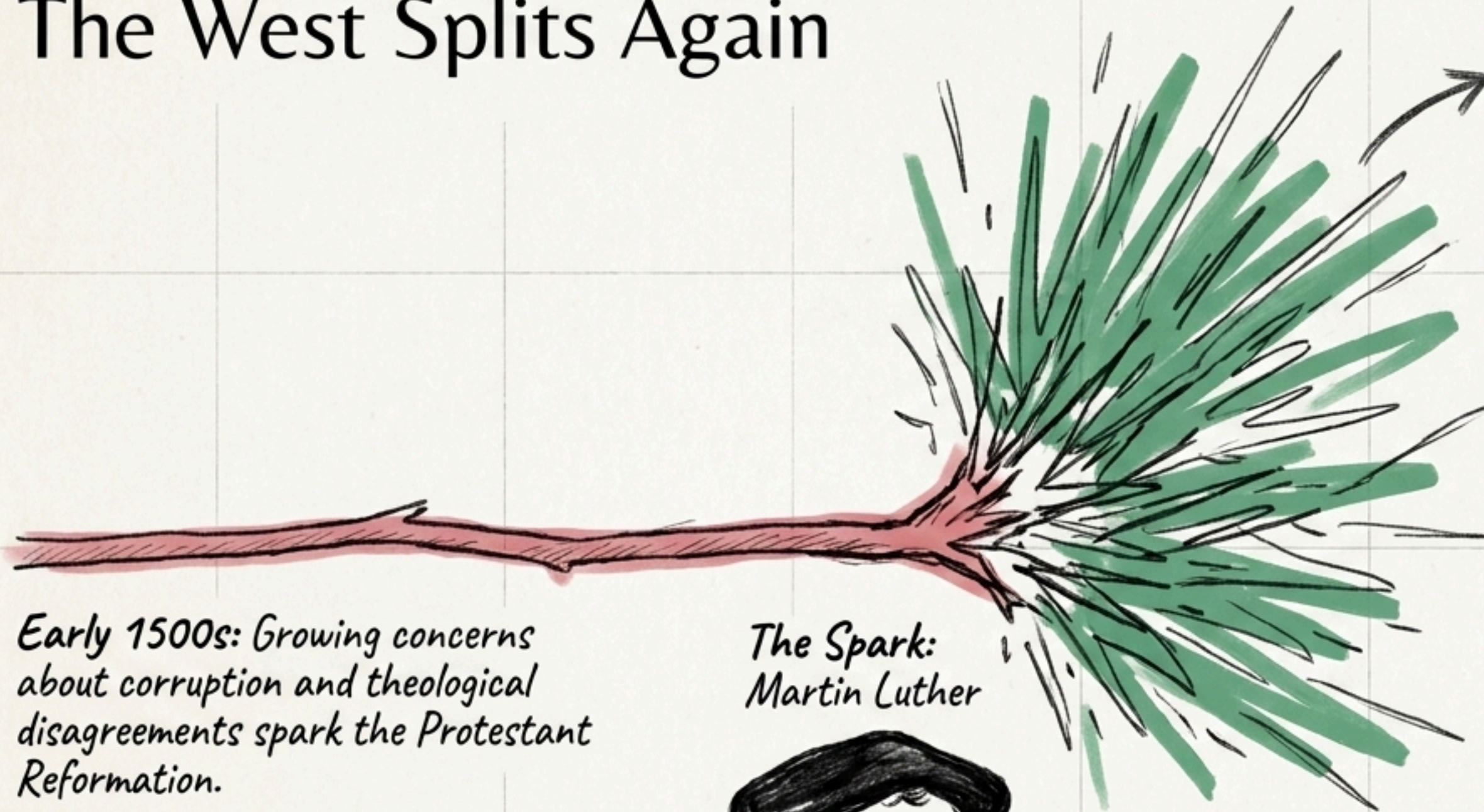
The Eucharist

Both believe the bread and wine truly become the body and blood of Christ, but...

 Catholic: Defines the change precisely as Transubstantiation.

 Orthodox: Accepts the change as a Divine Mystery without strict explanation.

The West Splits Again



Early 1500s: Growing concerns about corruption and theological disagreements spark the Protestant Reformation.

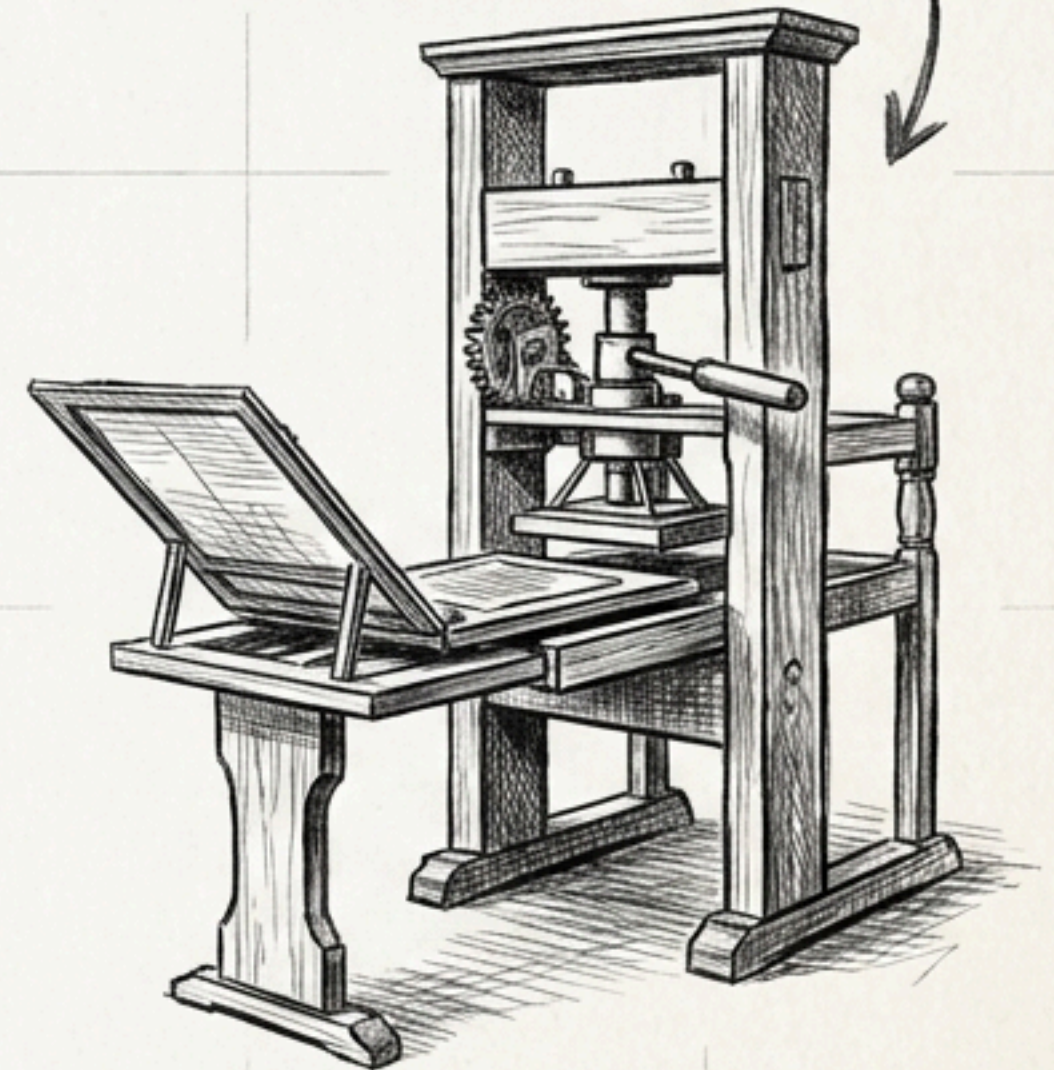
*The Spark:
Martin Luther*



Luther didn't intend to start a new church; he wanted to reform the existing one.

The Result: Protestantism is born—developing without a single central authority, resulting in a wide range of distinct denominations and interpretations.

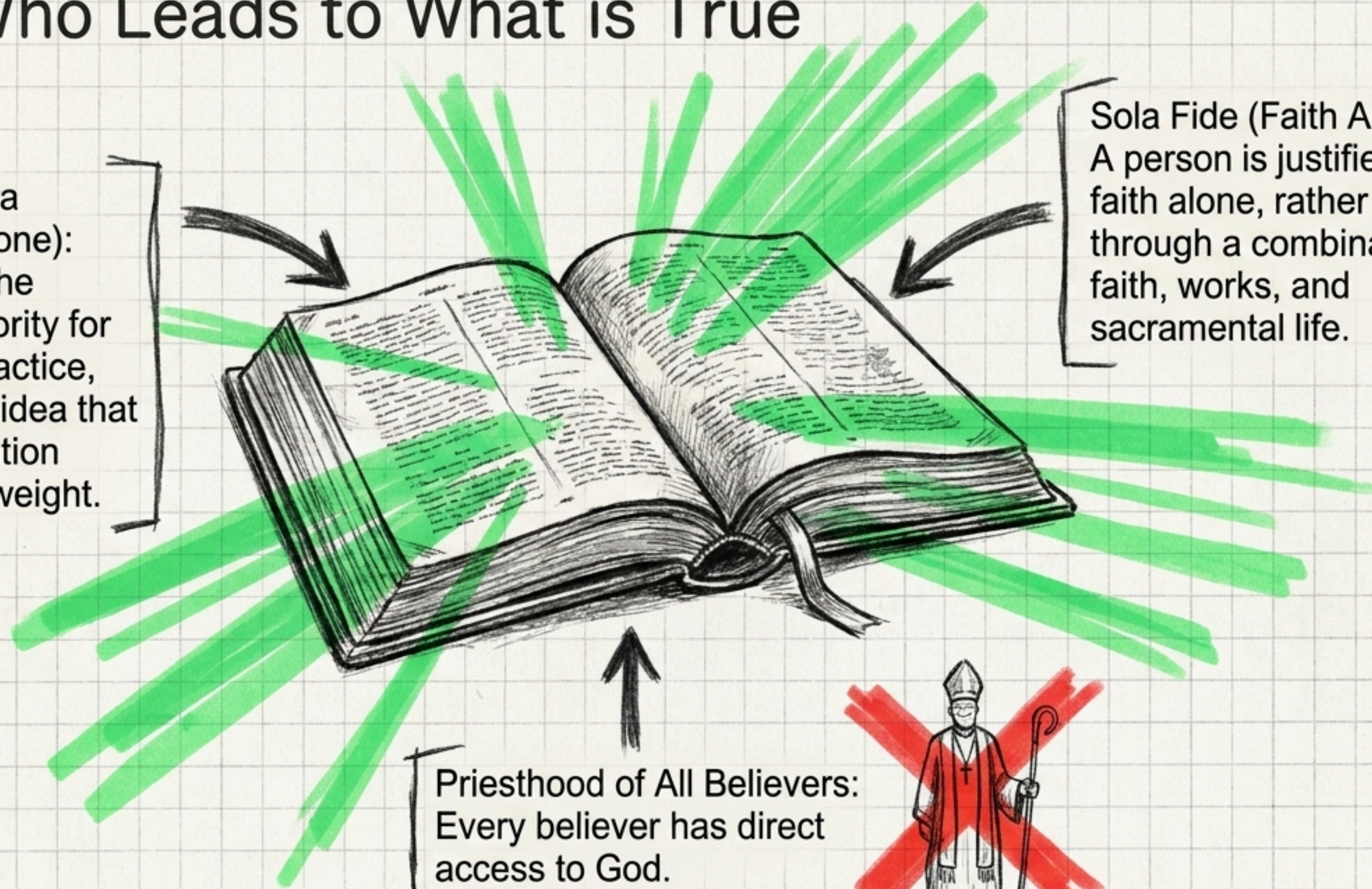
The Catalyst: The Printing Press fueled the rapid spread of revolutionary writings.



From Who Leads to What is True










Sola Scriptura
(Scripture Alone):
Scripture is the
highest authority for
belief and practice,
rejecting the idea that
Church Tradition
holds equal weight.

Sola Fide (Faith Alone):
A person is justified by
faith alone, rather than
through a combination of
faith, works, and
sacramental life.



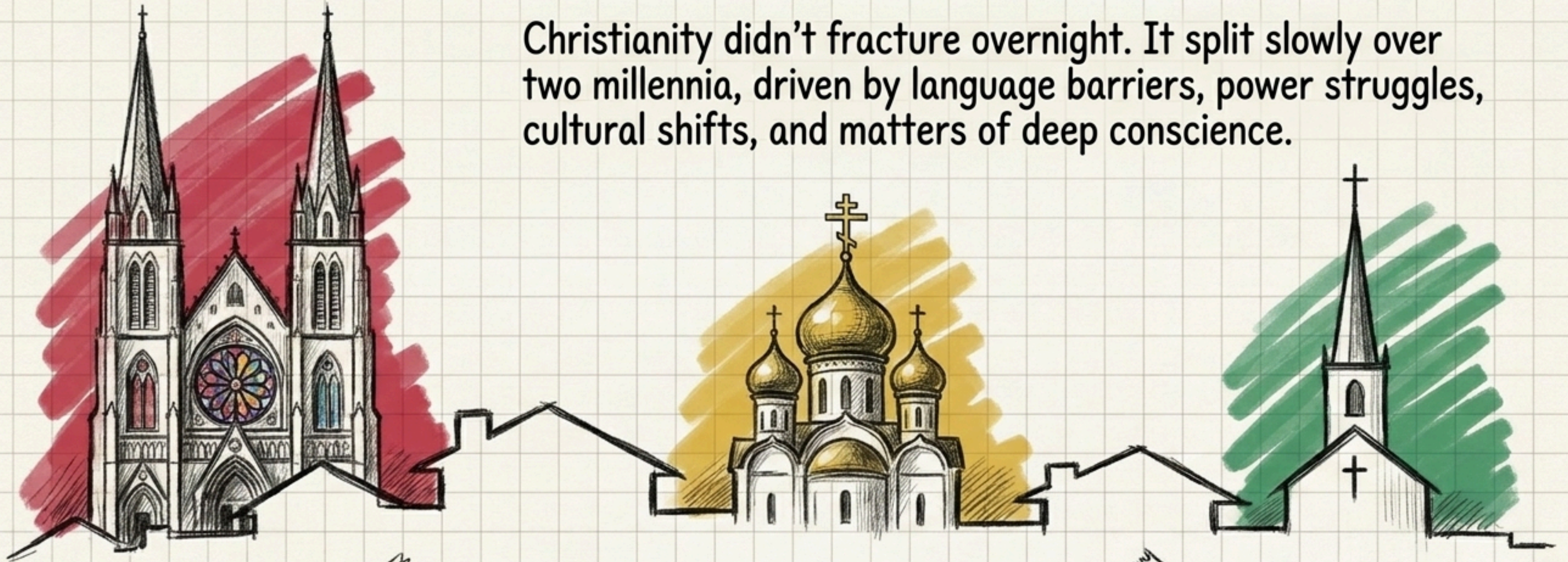
Priesthood of All Believers:
Every believer has direct
access to God.

Three Paths, Side-by-Side

	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant
Authority	 <p>Centralized in the Pope + Tradition</p>	 <p>Shared among Bishops (Councils)</p>	 <p>Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura)</p>
Salvation	 <p>Cooperative process (Faith + Works/Grace). Focus on legal forgiveness.</p>	 <p>Cooperative healing (Theosis). Focus on transformation.</p>	 <p>Justification by Faith Alone (Sola Fide).</p>
Worship	 <p>Sacrament & Liturgy. Precise definitions.</p>	 <p>Ancient Mystery, Icons, Incense.</p>	 <p>Centered on Preaching & Scripture.</p>

The Human Search for Truth

Christianity didn't fracture overnight. It split slowly over two millennia, driven by language barriers, power struggles, cultural shifts, and matters of deep conscience.



Behind every style of worship is a long human story of devotion, disagreement, and the enduring search for truth.