

HERESY:

Monophysitism

Monophysitism arose in the 5th century. This heresy was similar to Nestorianism in that it denied Christ's full humanity and full divinity. Instead, it taught the opposite extreme, claiming Christ was one person and his nature was a fusion of human and divine parts.

Paragraph 467 in the Catechism includes the following proclamation from the fourth ecumenical council at Chalcedon in 451 that refutes Monophysitism:

- Following the holy Fathers, we unanimously teach and confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: the same perfect in divinity and perfect in humanity, the same truly God and truly man, composed of rational soul and body; consubstantial with the Father as to his divinity and consubstantial with us as to his humanity; "like us in all things but sin". He was begotten from the Father before all ages as to his divinity and in these last days, for us and for our salvation, was born as to his humanity of the virgin Mary, the Mother of God.
- We confess that one and the same Christ, Lord, and only-begotten Son, is to be acknowledged in two natures without confusion, change, division or separation. The distinction between the natures was never abolished by their union, but rather the character proper to each of the two natures was preserved as they came together in one person (prosopon) and one hypostasis.

The meaning of Monophysitism comes from the Greek words mono (one) and physis (nature)