



LEO THE GREAT

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d. 461

Theologian and Bishop

- ✦ Elicited decree supporting papal primacy from Valentinian III in 445
- ✦ Argued against Eutychean monophysite theology
- ✦ “Tome of Leo” submitted to “Robber Council” of Ephesus(449) where it was suppressed
- ✦ “Tome” was ratified at Council of Chalcedon, 451
- ✦ Two natures subsist in Christ in perfect harmony
- ✦ Negotiated with Attila to protect Rome in 452
- ✦ Proclaimed “Doctor” by Benedict XIV in 1754

[A]lthough in the Lord Jesus Christ there is one Person of God and man, yet that whereby contumely attaches to both is one thing, and that whereby glory attaches to both is another; for from what belongs to us he has that manhood which is inferior to the Father; while from the Father he has equal Godhead with the Father. Accordingly, on account of this unity of Person which is to be understood as existing in both the natures. . . the Son of God took flesh from that Virgin of whom he was born; and on the other hand, the Son of God is said to have been crucified and buried, inasmuch as he underwent this, not in his actual Godhead, wherein the Only-begotten is coeternal and consubstantial with the Father, but in the weakness of human nature.

Tome of Leo