Using ccel.org as a source, please provide a short overview of the following Ecumenical Councils: Nicaea I, CONSTANTINOPLE I, EPHESUS, CHALCEDON.

Certainly! Let’s delve into the **Seven Ecumenical Councils**, significant gatherings in early Christian history. These councils shaped theological doctrine, church practice, and the unity of the Christian Church. Here’s a brief overview of each:

1. [**First Council of Nicaea (325 AD)**](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html) [1](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html):
   * **Purpose**: Convened to address the Arian controversy, particularly the nature of Christ in relation to God the Father.
   * **Key Outcome**: The Nicene Creed was formulated, affirming Christ’s divinity and consubstantiality with the Father.
   * **Significance**: Established foundational Christological doctrine.
2. [**First Council of Constantinople (381 AD)**](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html) [1](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html):
   * **Purpose**: Addressed the Arian heresy and further clarified the nature of the Holy Spirit.
   * **Key Outcome**: The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed (Nicene Creed) was reaffirmed, emphasizing the Holy Spirit’s role.
   * **Significance**: Strengthened the Trinitarian understanding.
3. [**Council of Ephesus (431 AD)**](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html) [1](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html):
   * **Purpose**: Dealt with the Nestorian controversy, which questioned the unity of Christ’s divine and human natures.
   * **Key Outcome**: Affirmed the title “Theotokos” (Mother of God) for Mary, emphasizing Christ’s unity.
   * **Significance**: Clarified Christology and upheld Mary’s role.
4. [**Council of Chalcedon (451 AD)**](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html) [1](https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.html):
   * **Purpose**: Addressed the Monophysite controversy, focusing on Christ’s nature.
   * **Key Outcome**: Affirmed the “two natures” (divine and human) in Christ without confusion or separation.
   * **Significance**: Established the Chalcedonian Definition.

These councils played a crucial role in shaping Christian theology and remain relevant even today. Their decisions continue to guide the faith of millions worldwide.