

Christian History Time Line



Menu

First Century, 1–100

Second Century, 100–200

Third Century, 200–300

Fourth Century, 300–400

Fifth Century, 400–500

Sixth Century, 500–600

Seventh Century, 600–700

Eighth Century, 700–800

Ninth Century, 800–900

Tenth Century, 900–1000

Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

Fourteenth Century, 1300–1400

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

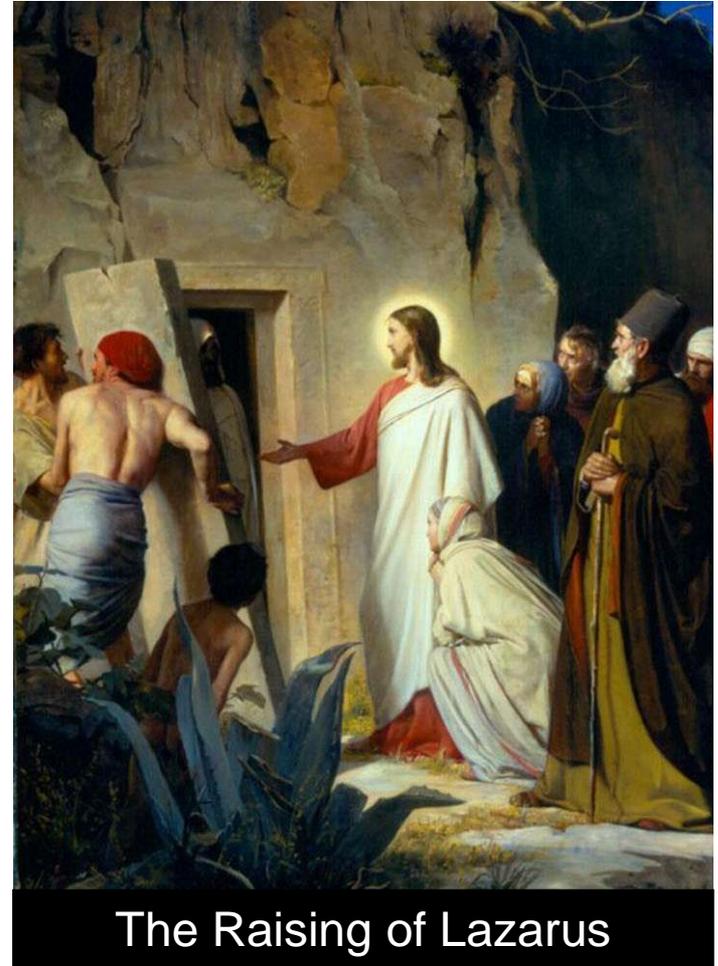
Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

Twenty-First Century, 2000–

First Century, AD 1–100

c. 4 or 6 BC Birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem of Judea.

c. AD 29 Beginning of Jesus' public ministry, about age 30. He preaches, does miracles, and claims to be God.



The Raising of Lazarus

First Century, AD 1–100

c. 33 Jesus is:

- Crucified on the cross.
- Resurrected, and appears to more than 500 disciples at one time (1 Cor. 15:6).
- Gives his followers the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19).
- Ascends into heaven after 40 days (Acts 1:3, 9).



First Century, AD 1–100

33 Pentecost

- Holy Spirit descends on the disciples in Jerusalem.
- Some 3,000 people become Christians.
- They spread the gospel throughout the Roman Empire (Acts 2:8).

35 Stephen, the first Christian martyr, is stoned to death in Jerusalem. Believers scatter through Judea and Samaria.

First Century, AD 1–100

35 Conversion of Paul, the persecutor of Christians.

- Paul goes on three missionary journeys starting in AD 48 to preach to Jews and Gentiles.
- He writes 13 letters (epistles) to the new churches.



Paul Preaching at Ephesus

First Century, AD 1–100

- 41** Conversion of Roman centurion, Cornelius.
- Peter and other Christians evangelize Gentiles.
 - Converts among Roman soldiers return to Italy and preach.
- 41** Followers of Christ first called Christians at Antioch.
- 44** Christians are persecuted under King Herod Agrippa. James is executed, Peter is imprisoned.
- 44** Famine strikes Judea. Christians in Antioch send relief.

First Century, AD 1–100

49–50 Council of Jerusalem

- The council agrees with Paul that Gentile converts are not required to follow Jewish law.
- Paul's work with Gentiles is recognized.

53 Jews expelled from Rome.

- Jewish believers Priscilla and Aquila flee. They meet Paul in Corinth during his second missionary journey.

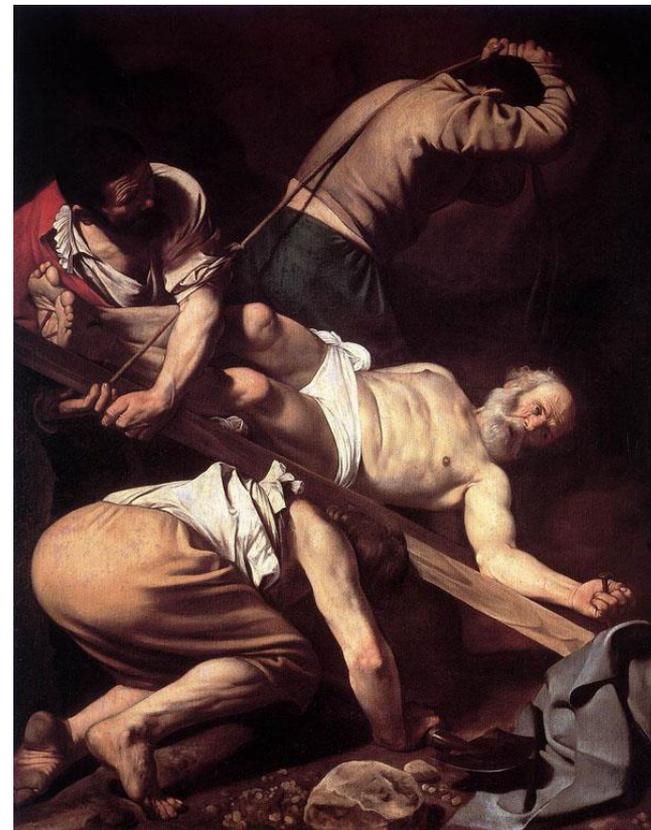
64 Great fire in Rome

- The fire is blamed on Christians.
- Emperor Nero tortures and kills thousands of Christians.

First Century, AD 1–100

c. 67–68 Peter and Paul taken to Rome.

- Paul evangelizes while under house arrest.
- Both Peter and Paul are executed under Nero.



Martyrdom of Peter

First Century, AD 1–100

66–70 Jewish revolt against the Romans.

- Emperor Titus destroys the temple in Jerusalem.
- Jews and Christians flee to all parts of the empire, including Alexandria, Carthage, and Rome.
- Antioch becomes the center for Christianity.

First Century, AD 1–100

71–81 Colosseum in Rome built.
Christians thrown to beasts.

81 Roman persecution of Christians under Domitian. Jews oust followers of Jesus from synagogues.



First Century, AD 1–100

85–150 Writings of apostolic fathers (early church leaders) Barnabas, Clement of Rome, Ignatius, and Polycarp.

90 Rise of Gnostic heresies within the church.

- Some Gnostics deny Jesus' humanity (Docetism), saying that he merely appeared to have a body.
- Gnostics claim to have secret knowledge beyond divine revelation and faith.

First Century, AD 1–100

c. 100 Death of John, the only one of Jesus' 12 disciples to die a natural death. All others are martyred.

100 By the end of this century:

- Christianity spreads to Egypt (Mark), Sudan (Ethiopian eunuch), Armenia (Thaddaeus, Bartholomew), France, Italy, Germany, Britain, Iraq, Iran, India (Thomas), Greece, Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Croatia (Titus), Asia Minor, Albania, Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia.
- The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) and the other New Testament books are written, AD 45–100.

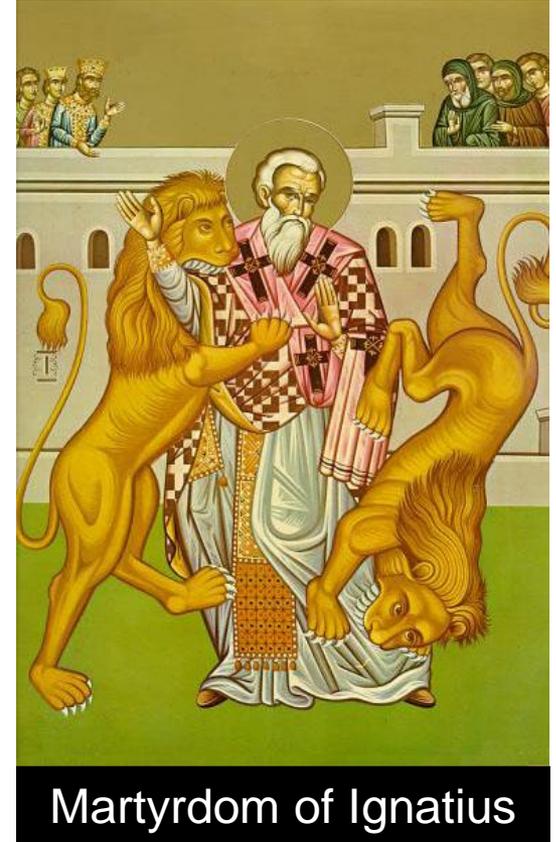
Second Century, AD 100–200

c. 107 Martyrdom of Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, who wrote letters of encouragement to the early churches.

c. 125 Gnosticism spreads.

132–135 Second Jewish rebellion

- Jerusalem is destroyed.
- Most of the population dies or flees.



Martyrdom of Ignatius

Second Century, AD 100–200

c. 144 Marcion is excommunicated for heresy, but the heresy persists for several centuries. He taught:

- No connection between the Old and New Testament.
- No connection between the God of the Jews and the God of Christians.
- Rejection of the Old Testament.

c. 155 Justin Martyr, theologian, writes his first *Apology*, a rebuttal to Greek philosophers.



Early Christian Mosaic
of the Miracle of
Loaves and Fishes

Second Century, AD 100–200

- c. 155** Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna and disciple of the apostle John, is burned at the stake at age 86+. He refers to Old and New Testament books as “scriptures.”
- c. 156** Montanus of Phrygia preaches a form of religious extremism called Montanism.
- c. 180** Irenaeus of Lyons, student of Polycarp and great theologian, writes *Against Heresies*. He lists 20 New Testament books as canonical.

Second Century, AD 100–200

193 Roman persecution under Septimius Severus.

196 Easter controversy concerning the day to celebrate Christ's resurrection.

- Western Christians prefer Sunday.
- Eastern Christians prefer linking Easter with the Jewish Passover regardless of the day of the week.



Silver Denarius of
Septimius Severus

Second Century, AD 100–200

197 Christianity sweeps the empire. Tertullian writes, “There is no nation indeed which is not Christian.”

200 By the end of this century:

- The church recognizes 23 New Testament books as canonical, but it is unlikely these are collected yet into one volume.
- The Apostles Creed and the Didache are written.
- The Scriptures are translated into seven languages, including Syriac and Coptic (Egyptian).
- Christianity expands to Morocco, Bulgaria, Portugal, and Austria; Widespread conversion in North Africa.

Third Century, AD 200–300

200 Christians in Egypt are viciously persecuted, thousands martyred.

215 Clement of Alexandria, theologian, dies.

c. 220 Origen, theologian and student of Clement

- Founds a school in Caesarea.
- Writes many works, including commentaries on most of the New Testament books.
- Writes, “The gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached in all creation under heaven.”

Third Century, AD 200–300

235–270 Roman persecution under several emperors.

- Christianity grows rapidly and Carthage becomes a major center for Christianity in Africa.

c. 242 Manichaeism originates in Persia.

- This dualistic heresy denies the humanity of Christ, and reappears in different forms over the centuries.

Third Century, AD 200–300

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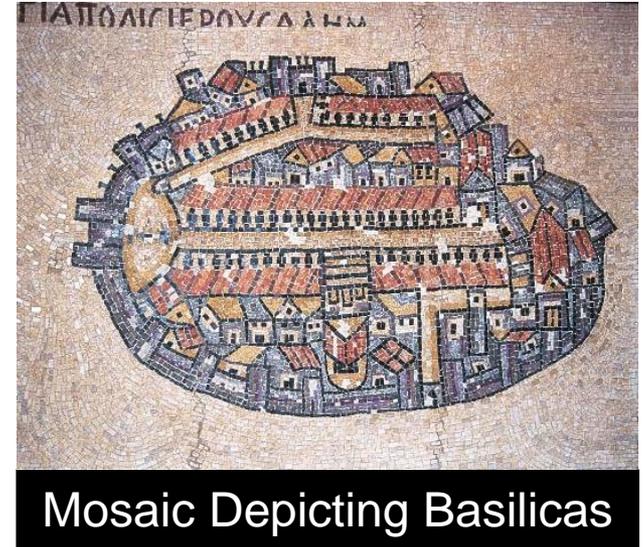
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261 First church buildings erected as rectangular shaped basilicas. Previously Christians met in homes.

287 Mass conversion of Armenia under Gregory the Illuminator; King Tiridates makes Christianity the state religion.



Third Century, AD 200–300

c. 292 Diocletian divides Roman Empire into East and West.

- East and West are different culturally and politically.
- Rome's influence wanes.

295 Some Christians refuse military service and are executed.

- Galerius begins to doubt that Christians in the army will obey orders. He persuades Diocletian to expel Christians from the legions.

Third Century, AD 200–300

295 The phrase “catholic” is used to mean all churches that agree with the whole apostolic teaching, as opposed to the heretical groups that follow a “secret revelation.”

300 By the end of this century:

- Monasticism begins in Egypt: *eremitical* (individual hermits) and *cenobitic* (religious groups or orders).
- Christianity expands to Switzerland, Sahara, Belgium, Edessa, Qatar, Bahrain (Assyrian Church), Hungary, and Luxembourg.

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

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303–4 Violent persecution of Christians under Diocletian. Scriptures burned; thousands killed.

311–411 Donatist schism in North Africa.

- Christians who stayed faithful during Diocletian's persecution oppose leniency toward those who lapsed.



Bust of Diocletian

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

312 Constantine (western emperor) sees a vision of the cross of Jesus that he credits for giving him victory in battle.

313 Edict of Milan (Toleration)

- Constantine and Licinius (eastern emperor) agree to end the persecution of Christians.
- However, persecution continues in the East.



Coin of
Constantine

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

320 Arius claims that Jesus Christ is a created being and not God by nature. His beliefs are called “Arianism.”

324 Eusebius writes *Church History*.

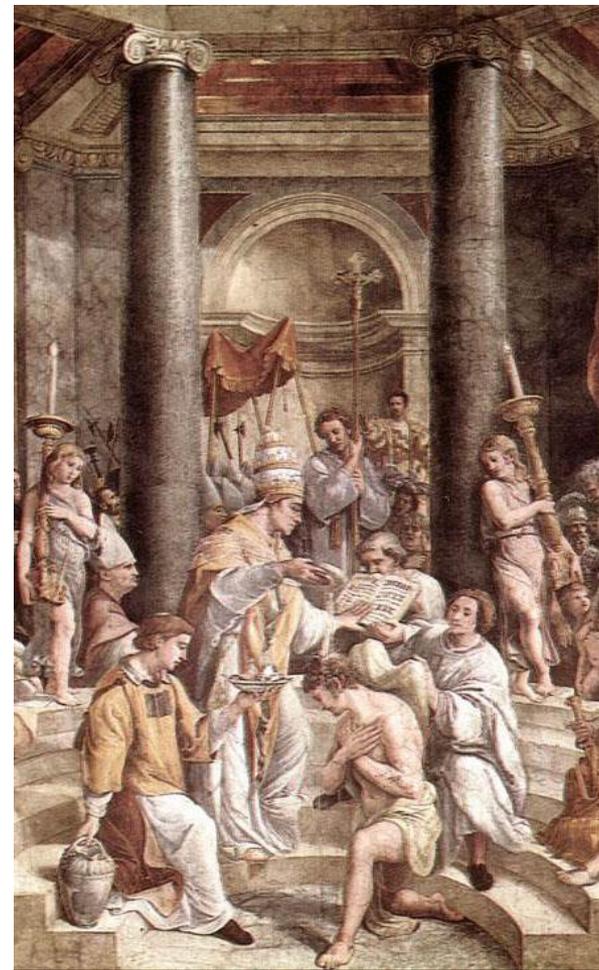
325 Council of Nicaea is convened in response to numerous heresies. It condemns Arianism and produces an early version of the Nicene Creed—a clear definition of the Trinity.

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

330 Constantine establishes the capital of the empire at Byzantium and renames it Constantinople.

337 Constantine baptized a few days before death.

339 Severe persecution of Christians in Persia.



Baptism of Constantine

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

346 Death of Pachomius, father of monasticism in the East and founder of the monastery at Tabennisi, Egypt.

350 Eastern church is mostly Arian. Arianism spreads to the Goths.

361 Emperor Julian the Apostate attempts unsuccessfully to restore paganism to the Roman Empire.

364 Basil, bishop of Caesarea, opposes Arian teachings.

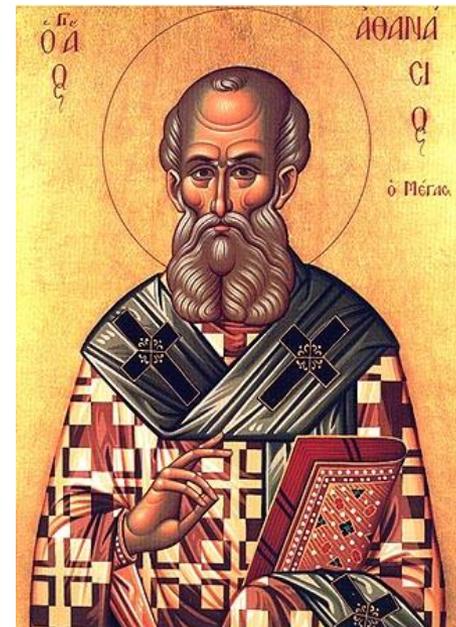
Fourth Century, AD 300–400

367+ Canon of the New Testament slowly collected and confirmed.

- Books recognized as authoritative by Athanasius bishop of Alexandria in the East and Council of Carthage in the West.

c. 376 Goth and barbarian invasions of the Roman empire begin.

381 Council of Constantinople I finalizes the Nicene Creed and condemns heresies about Jesus.



Athanasius

Fourth Century, AD 300–400

391 Theodosius makes Christianity the official religion.

398 John Chrysostom, great orator, becomes bishop of Constantinople.

400 By the end of this century, Christianity expands to Afghanistan and Ethiopia.

Fifth Century, AD 400–500

395–430 Augustine, bishop of Hippo (North Africa)

- Authors numerous theological works including *City of God*.
- Argues against Donatists, Pelagians, and Manichaeans.
- His writings dominate Christian theology in the West for centuries.



Fifth Century, AD 400–500

405 In Bethlehem, Jerome finishes translating the Old and New Testament into Latin after 23 years of work.

- The Vulgate, as it is known, is the Bible used for the next 1,000 years.

410 Arian Visigoths sack Rome.



Title Page of the Vulgate

Fifth Century, AD 400–500

428 Nestorius, patriarch of Constantinople, teaches that there are two distinct Persons in Jesus Christ.

- Mary is mother of the human part only, therefore some of Jesus' actions were human and some were divine.

431 Council of Ephesus

- Condemns Nestorianism and Pelagianism.
- Defines Mary as Theotokos (“bearer of God”) to show that Jesus is one person with two natures—fully human and fully divine.

Fifth Century, AD 400–500

432 Patrick evangelizes Ireland.

- Over the next 30 years most of the country is converted.

440 Leo the Great becomes pope.

- He persuades Attila the Hun to spare a weakened Rome.



Fifth Century, AD 400–500

451 Council of Chalcedon

- Focuses on the divine and human natures of Christ.
- Confirms Pope Leo's Tome and condemns Appolinarianism, Nestorianism, and Monophysitism which denies the humanity of Christ.

451 Copts of Egypt and Ethiopia divide, the majority form monophysite or "One Nature" churches.

476 Fall of the western Roman Empire

- The emperor is ousted.
- This marks the beginning of the Middle Ages.

Fifth Century, AD 400–500

496 Clovis, king of the Franks, converts to Christianity.

500 By the end of this century:

- The Scriptures are translated into 13 languages.
- Christianity spreads to Western North Africa, the Isle of Man, San Marino, Liechtenstein, the Caucasus, Ireland, and tribes in Central Asia.



*C*um venisset hic exeret dagobertus.
*E*t illi cernit turba latitante repertus.
*E*t fugit ille amens spero discrimine salens.
*A*gmina dat celeret fugiens hostilia satius.

Baptism of Clovis (Top)

Sixth Century, AD 500–600

500 Syrian Orthodox church establishes a monophysite monastery in Ethiopia.

520 Irish monasteries flourish as centers of learning, spiritual life, and training for missionaries.

520 Nestorians gain converts throughout Asia and continue to influence religious life for many centuries.

525 Christianity spreads throughout the Middle East, including the Arabian Peninsula.

Sixth Century, AD 500–600

529 Monk Benedict of Nursia

- Founds Monte Cassino Abbey in Italy.
- Writes the *Rule*, a guide for monastic life.
- He is considered the father of monasticism in the West.

c. 545 Death of Dionysius Exiguus

- A monk who was the first to date history by the life of Christ, leading to the BC and AD designations.
- His calculations were off by at least four years.



Benedict

Sixth Century, AD 500–600

553 Council of Constantinople

- Convened by Emperor Justinian.
- Condemns the “Three Chapters,” (the writings of several theologians including Theodore of Mopsuestia) for alleged heresies.

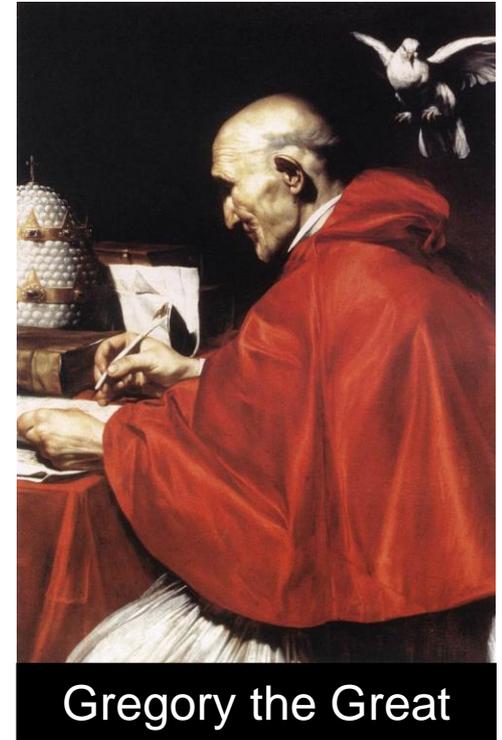
589 Third Council of Toledo

- Visigoth king renounces Arianism, accepts church teachings.

Sixth Century, AD 500–600

590 Gregory elected pope.

- High-ranking Roman official who resigned his post (574) and donated his wealth to church relief efforts for the poor.
- Known as Gregory the Great or Gregory I; First of the medieval popes.
- Instituted reforms and sent missionaries (e.g., Augustine of Canterbury) to re-evangelize England, after Angle and Saxon pagans force Christian Britons to Wales.
- Promoted liturgical music and monasticism.



Gregory the Great

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Sixth Century, AD 500–600

597 Death of Columba, evangelist of Scotland and founder of an important monastery at Iona, Scotland.

600 By the end of this century:

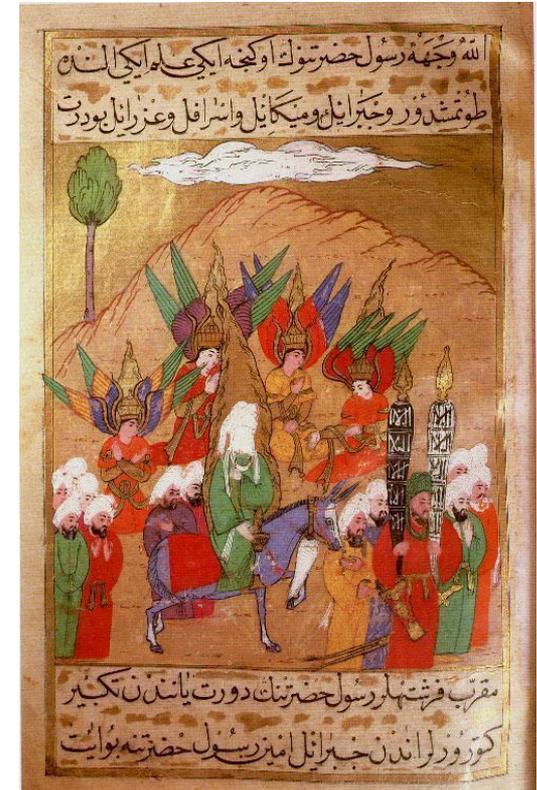
- Plainsong “Gregorian” chants begin to develop.
- Christianity spreads to North Yemen, Ceylon, Malabar, Nubia (Sudan), Channel Islands, and Andorra.

Seventh Century, AD 600–700

c. 610 Muhammad declares himself to be Prophet of God; Founds Islam and his teachings and deeds are called the Qur'an.

622 He is persecuted and flees Mecca to Medina; establishes a Muslim community there.

630 He launches a military campaign defeating his opponents in Mecca.



Muhammad Goes to Mecca

Seventh Century, AD 600–700

632 Muhammad dies.

- Islam has spread to much of Arabia.
- Muslims conquer Jerusalem.
- Islam sweeps through Palestine and Syria.

640 Islam invades Egypt and North Africa

- Almost eradicating Christianity there (which had numbered over 1 million believers).
- Three hundred years later few Christians remain in the region.



Muhammad Goes to Mecca

Seventh Century, AD 600–700

663 Synod of Whitby aligns the English church with Rome for the next nine centuries.

676–709 Earliest Old English (Anglo-Saxon) translations and paraphrases of portions of the Bible are made by Caedmon and Aldhelm.

680–692 Eastern and Western churches drift further apart.

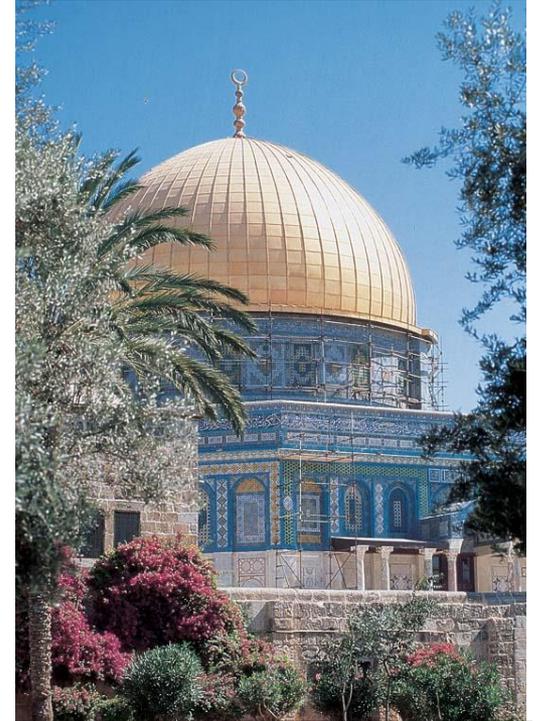
- Differences in church practices and expression of theology.
- On clergy celibacy: the Eastern church allows priests to be married, provided that they are married before ordination. The Western church discourages it.

Seventh Century, AD 600–700

688–691 Dome of the Rock is built on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem by caliph Abd al-Malik.

700 By the end of this century:

- Christianity spreads to China, Andorra, Netherlands, Indonesia, Niger, and Mongolia.
- Christianity declines in Northern Africa.



Dome of the Rock
Today

Eighth Century, AD 700–800

711 Muslim Moors invade Spain and Portugal, their first foothold in Europe.

- They are driven out in the 1200s.

716 Boniface, an English missionary known as the “Apostle to the Germans,” evangelizes southern and central German cities and establishes Benedictine monasticism.

720 Bede translates the gospel of John into English; writes *Ecclesiastical History*.

Eighth Century, AD 700–800

726 Controversy over the use of icons in the East begins.

- Emperor Leo supports iconoclasm (“image-breaking”) in 726.
- Pope Gregory III condemns iconoclasm in 731.
- A council of 300 Byzantine bishops endorse iconoclasm in 754.
- The council is condemned by the Lateran synod of 769.



Icons in a Church Today

Eighth Century, AD 700–800

732 Charles Martel defeats the Muslims in France, stopping the Muslim advance in Europe for 100 years.

754 Pepin, son of Charles Martel, unites and rules the Franks.

- At the request of Pope Stephen II (III), Pepin invades Italy to defend it against Lombard invaders.
- Pepin gives conquered land to the church (called the Donation of Pepin) which establishes the papal states.

Eighth Century, AD 700–800

768–814 Charlemagne, son of Pepin, expands his empire through military conquest to almost all of what is now France, Germany, and Italy. He forces German Saxons to convert.

787 Council of Nicaea II

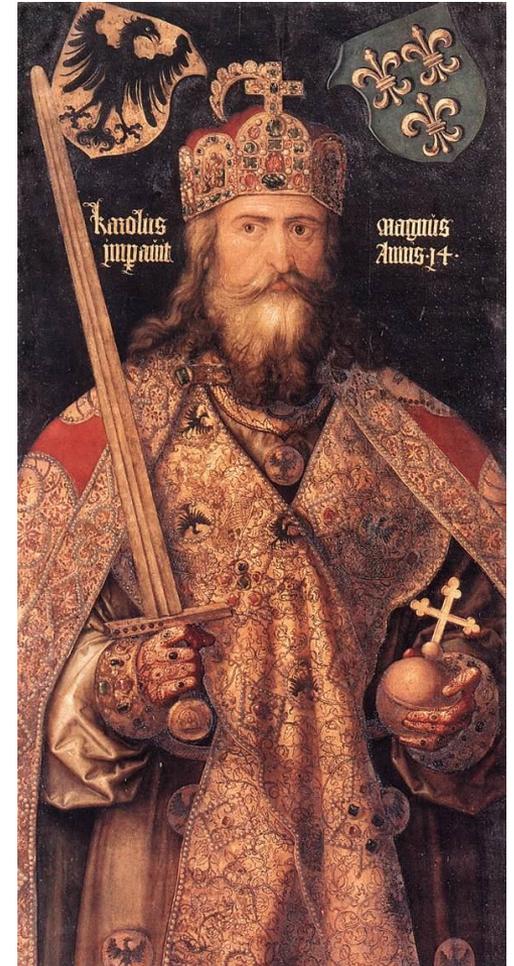
- Condemns iconoclasm and Adoptionism (the belief that Jesus was not Son of God by nature).
- This is the last council recognized as binding by both the eastern and western churches.

800 By the end of this century, Christianity spreads to Iceland, Pakistan, and East Germany.

Ninth Century, AD 800–900

800 Charlemagne crowned Roman emperor by Pope Leo III.

- Charlemagne reforms the law and church organization.
- He encourages all monasteries to teach reading and writing.
- Through the influence of the scholar Alcuin, schools are founded and scriptoria set up to copy the Bible and Latin classics.

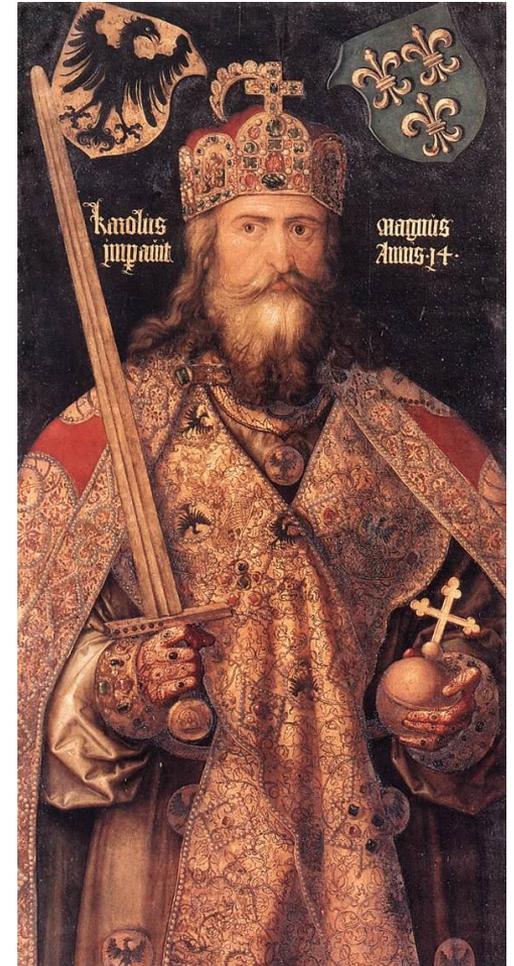


Charlemagne

Ninth Century, AD 800–900

800 Charlemagne crowned Roman emperor by Pope Leo III.

- This commitment to culture is known as the Carolingian Renaissance.
- The Western church's prominence begins to increase; the Eastern church's declines.



Charlemagne

Ninth Century, AD 800–900

800 Egbert, king of the West Saxons, unifies England and becomes the first king.

814 Charlemagne dies.

829 Sweden is evangelized by Anskar, “Apostle of the North.”

837 Christians in Egypt are persecuted and forced to wear five-pound crosses around their necks.

843 Charlemagne’s empire is split between his three grandsons.

845 Nestorians are persecuted in China.

Ninth Century, AD 800–900

846 Muslims invade Italy and attack Rome.

857 Photian Schism

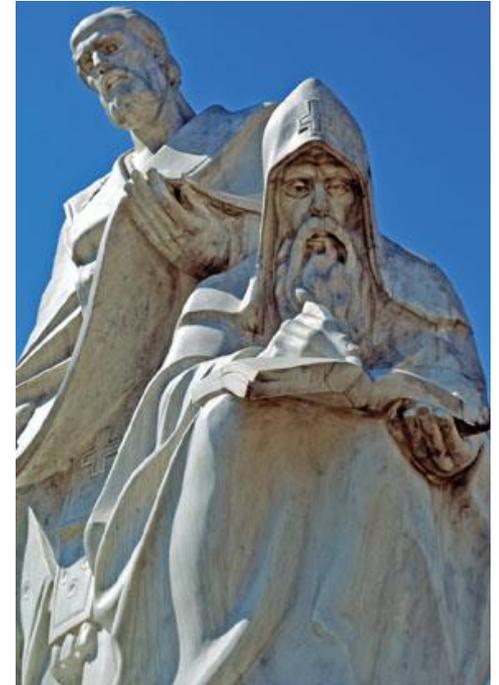
- Patriarch Photius of Constantinople (Orthodox Church) rejects the Roman pope's claim of primacy among the bishops of the East as well as the West.
- Communion between Eastern and Western church is broken.

Ninth Century, AD 800–900

861 Slavs are converted by Greek missionary brothers Cyril and Methodius, who translate the Scriptures into Slavonic.

871 Alfred the Great, king of Wessex, translates portions of the Psalms, Exodus, and Acts into Old English (Anglo-Saxon).

900 By the end of this century, Christianity spreads to Tibet, Burma, Denmark, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, and Norway.



Cyril and Methodius

Tenth Century, 900–1000

902 Muslims advance and gain control of Sicily.

909 William, Duke of Aquitaine, founds the Benedictine Abbey of Cluny, France, which becomes the center for reform under Abbot Odo.

950–999 Conversion of royalty across the empire, including Olga of Kiev, Miesko of Poland, and Stephen of Hungary.

962 Otto I, the Great, founder of the Holy Roman Empire, is crowned by Pope John XII.

- This empire continues until 1806.

Tenth Century, 900–1000

988 Conversion of Vladimir of Kiev, grandson of Olga, to Eastern (Orthodox) Christianity.

- According to tradition, Vladimir chose Orthodoxy because the splendor of the worship at the Church of St. Sophia in Constantinople convinced him that “God dwells there among men.”



Interior of the Church of St. Sophia Today

Tenth Century, 900–1000

988 Conversion of Vladimir of Kiev, grandson of Olga, to Eastern (Orthodox) Christianity.

- He orders the population of Kiev to choose Christianity.
- He wipes out paganism, builds churches, and establishes schools.
- At his death, he donates all of his possessions to the poor.



Interior of the Church of St. Sophia Today

Tenth Century, 900–1000

996 In Egypt, Caliph El Hakim persecutes Copts, destroying thousands of churches and forcing people to convert to Islam.

999 Leif Ericson converts to Christianity in Norway.

- The next year he brings the gospel to his father's colony in Greenland.

1000 By the end of this century:

- Christianity in Western North Africa is virtually wiped out by Islam.
- Christianity spreads to Hungary, Kiev, Greenland, Bohemia, and Poland.

Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1000 Greek Catholicism (Melkite) introduced in Nubia.

1009 Nestorians convert northern Mongolians. Their beliefs spread to Persia, India, and China.

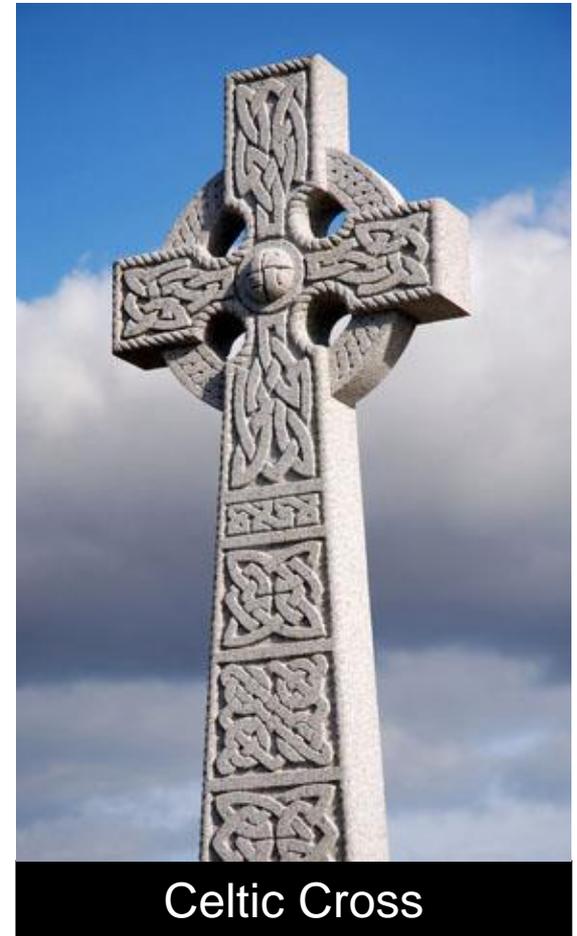
1054 Great Schism between the church in the West and East.

- Roman Cardinal Humbart, envoy of Pope Leo IX, excommunicates Patriarch Michael Cerularius in the Church of St. Sophia in Constantinople.
- Despite this, there is some cooperation between the Eastern (Orthodox) and Western (Roman Catholic) church against the Seljuk Turks.

Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1066 Normans (French Christians) conquer Britain, Sicily, and evangelize the Celts.

1071 Seljuk Turks (converts to Islam) from Central Asia conquer Persia and move west toward the Byzantine capital, Constantinople.



Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1073 Gregory VII (Hildebrand) becomes pope. He works to revive and reform the church, prohibiting:

- Simony, the buying or selling of church offices.
- Sexual immorality in the clergy.
- Lay investiture, the custom of emperors and local rulers choosing local church leaders.

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Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1096 Pope Urban II calls for volunteers for a crusade to repel the Turks, specifically to help Eastern Christians in Constantinople liberate the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and reopen the Holy Land to Christian pilgrims.



Church of the Holy Sepulchre Today

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Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1097–99 The First Crusade

- More than 70,000 people inspired by both noble and lesser motives, join the ranks and head for the Holy Land.
- In their zeal, they slaughter Jews in Germany and pillage villages en route.



Baldwin of Boulogne on the First Crusade

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Eleventh Century, 1000–1100

1097–99 The First Crusade

- Crusaders capture Jerusalem and brutally massacre their opponents.
- They set up the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem under Godfrey of Bouillon, and build castles and churches.



Baldwin of Boulogne on
the First Crusade

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1115 Bernard founds a monastery at Clairvaux, which becomes the influential center of Europe.

1116 Peter Abelard, philosopher and theologian.

1122 Concordat of Worms focuses on the controversy over lay investiture.

1123 Lateran Council ratifies the Concordat of Worms.

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1129 The Knights Templar, an order of monastic soldiers sworn to protect Holy Land pilgrims, is recognized.

1130 Disputed election of Popes Innocent II and Anacletus II. Innocent becomes pope.

1139 Second Lateran Council focuses on pseudo-popes (popes elected by unauthorized councils).



Knights Templar

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1146 Second Crusade

- Preached by Bernard of Clairvaux in response to the Muslim conquest of Edessa, the crusader capital.
- Led by Louis VII of France and Emperor Conrad III of Germany.
- This crusade fails.

1150 Syrian Orthodox church reaches zenith.

1150 College of Cardinals is established by pope.

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1162 Thomas Becket becomes archbishop of Canterbury.

- A close friend of Henry II and chancellor of England, Becket resigns his chancellorship after conflicts with Henry over the power of the church and the throne.
- Becket is murdered by knights of Henry II in 1170.



The Murder of
Thomas Becket

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1174 Peter Valdes becomes an itinerant preacher.

- French merchant who gives his wealth to the poor.
- This is the beginning of the Waldensians.
- His practice of appointing ministers and preaching without permission gets him excommunicated.

1177 Third Lateran Council denounces the Waldensians and Albigensians (heretics that believed that Jesus was an angel with a phantom body, and did not die or rise again.)

1187 Muslim general Saladin defeats Crusaders at Horns of Hattin (Galilee); captures Jerusalem.

Twelfth Century, 1100–1200

1189–92 Third Crusade

- Led by Richard I (Lion-Heart) of England, Philip II of France, and Barbarossa the Holy Roman Emperor.
- Crusaders capture Cyprus, Acre, and Jaffa.
- Richard negotiates access to Jerusalem for Christian pilgrims.

1200 By the end of this century, Christianity spreads to Finland.



Richard I on his way to Jerusalem

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

1201 The height of papal authority.

- Pope Innocent III claims the right of the pope to oversee the moral conduct of the heads of state and to choose rulers, including the emperor.

1202 Fourth Crusade

- Launched by Pope Innocent III to defeat Egypt.
- Crusaders defy the pope and sack Constantinople, center of the Orthodox church.
- A three-day massacre by Crusaders in Constantinople alienates the eastern and western church for centuries.

1208 Church declares a crusade against Albigensians.

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

1209 Francis of Assisi gives away his wealth; starts a group of traveling preachers (Franciscans).

1211 Mongol Genghis Khan, whose mother is a Nestorian, rises to power. Conquers China, Iran and Iraq.



Francis of Assisi

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

1212 Children's Crusade disaster.

- Thousands of children die at sea or are sold into slavery.

1215 Fourth Lateran Council

- Condemns Waldensians and Albigensians.
- Affirms the doctrine of transubstantiation.

1231 The Papal Inquisition is established.

1216 Dominican order forms, dedicated to spiritual reform.

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

1217 Fifth Crusade

- Launched to defeat Egypt.
- This Crusade fails.
- Francis of Assisi crosses enemy lines to preach to the sultan.

1229 Crusaders recover Jerusalem by negotiation.

1244 Muslims recapture Jerusalem by force.

1255 Thomas Aquinas, the most influential medieval theologian, writes *Summa Theologiae*.

Thirteenth Century, 1200–1300

1266 Mongol leader, Kublai Khan, asks the pope to send 100 Christian teachers to baptize him and teach his people; the pope sends seven.

- In 1295, the Mongols convert to Islam.



Kublai Khan

1274 Byzantine Empire rebuilt.

1274 Second Council of Lyon decrees unification of the eastern and western church, but unification is rejected in the East.

Fourteenth Century, 1300–1400

1302 Pope claims supremacy over secular rulers.

1302 Franciscans active in Mongol empire.

1309 The “Babylonian Captivity”

- Papacy resides in Avignon, France for 70 years.
- The new pope favors French policies.
- The new pope convenes the Council of Vienne that abolishes the Order of Knights Templar and gives their wealth to King Philip IV of France.

1312–24 Marsilius of Padua writes *Defensor pacis*, stating that the church should be ruled by general councils. He is condemned as heretical.

Fourteenth Century, 1300–1400

1348–51 The Bubonic Plague

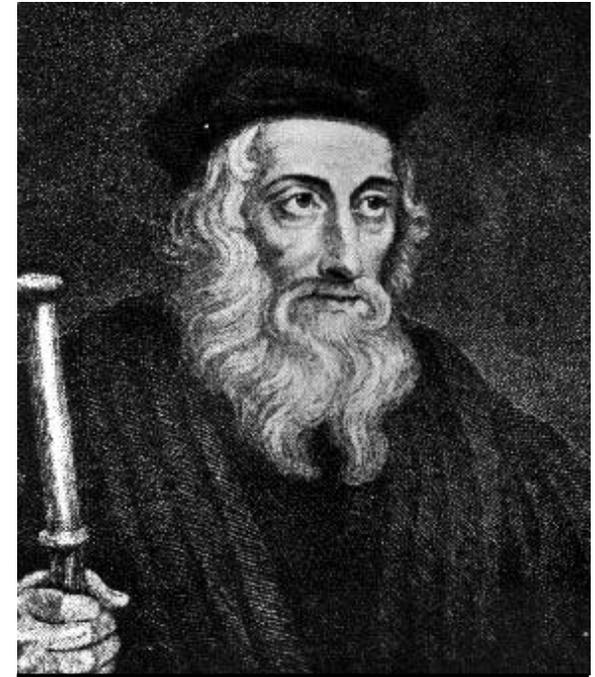
- Also known as Black Death.
- Kills 33% of the people in Europe (about 40 million).
- People blame the disease (which is transmitted by fleas living on rats) on the Avignon papacy, the Jews, or personal immorality.



Fourteenth Century, 1300–1400

1371 John Wycliffe proposes limiting papal taxation and civil power.

- English priest and diplomat.
- Challenges church doctrines, such as transubstantiation.
- Believes Scripture should be available to the people in their own language.
- People inspired by Wycliffe translate the entire Bible into English from Latin in 1382, and call it the Wycliffe Bible.



John Wycliffe

Fourteenth Century, 1300–1400

1373 Julian of Norwich, English mystic.

1376 Catherine of Sienna, mystic, sees a vision calling the new pope, Gregory XI, to return the papacy to Rome, which he does in 1377.

1378 Great Papal Schism (2 or 3 popes at once)

- The College of Cardinals elects an Italian pope, Urban VI, but later denies the validity of the decision and elects Clement VII instead.
- Urban remains in Rome; Clement goes to Avignon, France.
- The schism continues until 1417.

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1408 In England, it is illegal to translate or read the Bible in English without permission.

1413 Jan Hus of Bohemia writes *De Ecclesia*, which supports Wycliffe's ideas.

1414–18 Council of Constance

- Rejects Wycliffe's teachings.
- Burns Hus at the stake.
- Affirms that general councils are superior to popes (conciliarism), a decision later overturned.



Hus at the Council of Constance

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1417 Pope Martin V is elected and the Great Papal Schism ends.

1418 Thomas À Kempis, a German monk, writes the *Imitation of Christ*, a devotional.

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Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1431 Joan of Arc sees visions and hears voices telling her to save France.

- French peasant girl during the Hundred Years' War.
- She leads a successful military expedition at Orleans.
- Later she is taken prisoner, tried for witchcraft, and burned.
- In 1456, the verdict is reversed.



Capture of Joan of Arc

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1438 Council of Florence

- Affirms the primacy of the pope over general councils, declaring reunion between the Roman and Orthodox churches.
- It is not accepted by the Orthodox.

c. 1450 Beginning of the Renaissance

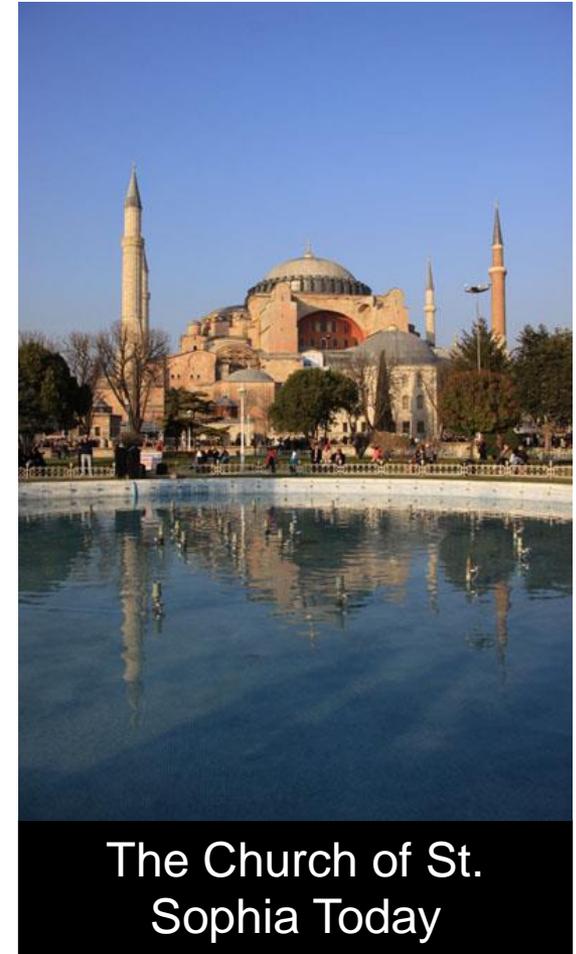
- The popes of the Renaissance (1447–1521) are notable more for their intrigues and quest for power than for their pastoral care or desire for reform.

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1453 Ottoman Turks capture Constantinople.

- They make the Church of St. Sophia into a mosque.
- Scholars in Constantinople flee to the West with Greek literary and scientific manuscripts, and manuscripts of the Bible.
- These manuscripts help revive classical learning during the Renaissance.

1453 Plans for a new St. Peter's Basilica in Rome begin.



The Church of St. Sophia Today

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1456 Johann Gutenberg prints the Latin Vulgate.

- This is the first book printed using moveable metal type.
- This invention makes the Bible accessible to more people who previously could not afford handmade copies, which cost a year's wage.



Page from the
Gutenberg Bible

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1479 The Spanish Inquisition begins.

- Initiated by King Ferdinand V and Queen Isabella of Spain, and approved by the pope, to investigate and punish heretics.
- Its cruel methods (torture, burning), secret trials, and favoritism toward the Spanish monarchy continue despite protests from Rome.
- The Franciscan and Dominican friars who serve as judges often misuse their power.
- Thousands of Jews are deported.
- Later, the Inquisition is used against Protestants.
- Inquisition was officially abolished in 1820. Catholics today condemn the methods used.

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1492 Columbus discovers the Americas.

1492 The last of the Muslim Moors are removed from Spain by Ferdinand and Isabella.



Columbus Landing at Guanahani

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Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1492 Peak of papal corruption

- Rodrigo Borgia buys cardinals' votes and becomes Pope Alexander VI in 1492.
- In 1493 he avoids war by dividing the newly discovered lands in the Americas and Africa between Spain and Portugal.

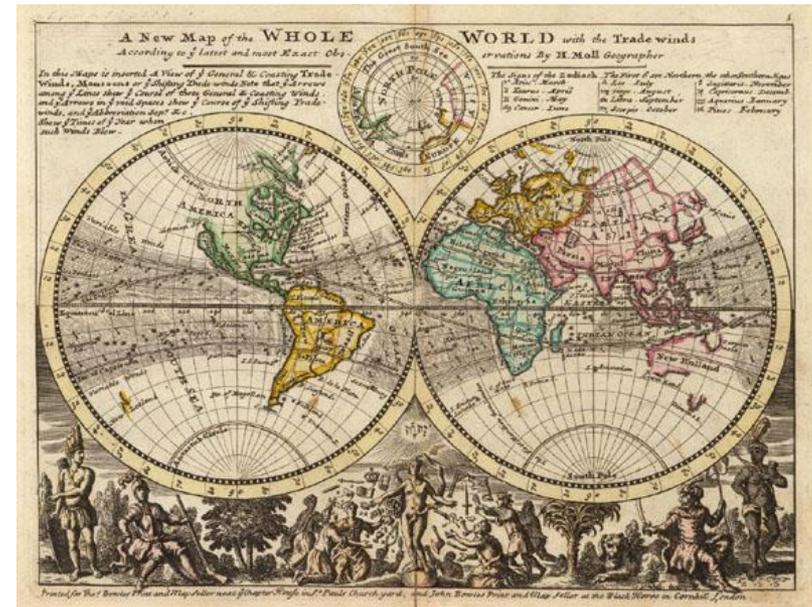


Pope Alexander VI

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1493 Colonizing of the New World by explorers for the next 150 years.

- Settlers wishing to exploit the land and the people clash with missionaries such as the Dominicans, Franciscans, and Jesuits.
- These missionaries spread the gospel and advocate for the natives.



Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1497–8 Dominican friar Savonarola preaches reform.

- Encourages the people of Florence to burn luxury items and return to a humbler Christian life.
- Sells church property and gives proceeds to the poor.
- Despite his initial popularity with the common people, he is caught in a political conflict with Alexander VI and is excommunicated.
- His popularity wanes and he is later executed for heresy.

Fifteenth Century, 1400–1500

1500 By the end of this century:

- Moscow claims to be the center of Christianity after the fall of Constantinople.
- Christianity spread to Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Kenya, and Equatorial Guinea.
- Christianity declines in China, Persia, Nubia (Southern Egypt and Ethiopia), and areas influenced by Islam.

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1503–12 Pope Julius II commissions Michelangelo to finish painting the Sistine Chapel.

1506 The foundation stone of St. Peter's Basilica is laid.



Sistine Chapel

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1512–17 Council of Lateran V is held to address a variety of concerns, including church reform.

1516 Erasmus, priest and Greek scholar, publishes a Greek translation of the New Testament.

- Later editions of his Greek text form the basis of the *textus receptus* and are used by Martin Luther, William Tyndale, and the King James Bible translators.

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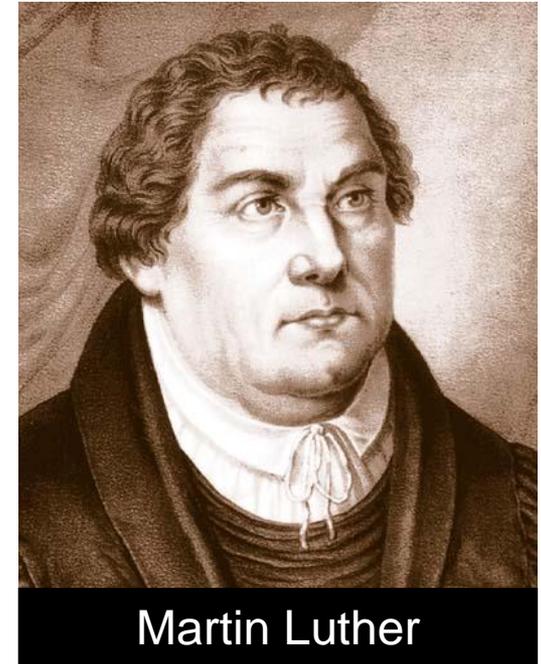
Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1517 Martin Luther posts his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg.

- The 95 theses call for an end to abuses involved in methods of selling indulgences.
- The Protestant Reformation begins.

1519 Swiss Ulrich Zwingli spreads reform.

1522 Luther translates the New Testament into German.



Martin Luther

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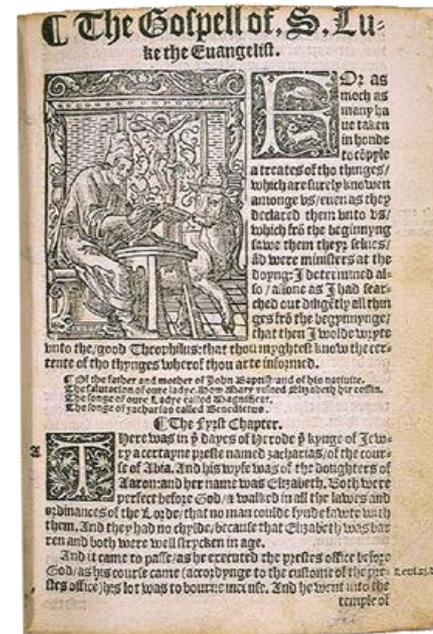
Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1525 William Tyndale makes an English translation of the New Testament from Greek without permission.

- He smuggles copies of it into England.
- He is burned at the stake.

1525 Anabaptist movement teaches:

- Believers' baptism only.
- Democratic decision making.
- Separation of church and state.



Page from the Tyndale Bible

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1529 The term *Protestantism* becomes associated with Lutheranism, Zwinglianism, and Calvinism. Protestant characteristics:

- Acceptance of the Bible as the only source of revealed truth.
- Doctrine of justification by faith alone.
- The priesthood of all believers.

1530 Augsburg Confession adopted by Lutherans.

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Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1534 Act of Supremacy

- Makes British monarch Henry VIII head of the English church, breaking away from Roman Catholic control.
- The new “Church of England” (Anglican Church) sets forth a doctrinal statement: The 39 Articles.

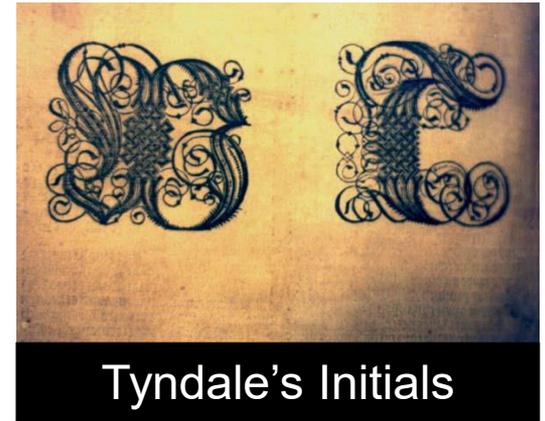
1535 Munster Rebellion

- Anabaptists take over the city of Munster, Germany and are slaughtered.
- Later, under the leadership of Menno Simons, the group adopts pacifism.

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1537 The Matthew's Bible published.

- It is the first English Bible published with the king's permission.
- On the last page of the Old Testament, the translator prints Tyndale's initials in 2 ½ inch letters to honor him.
- Many Bibles in common languages begin to appear.



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Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1536 John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* explains Protestant beliefs, including predestination.

1540 Ignatius Loyola's Society of Jesus (Jesuits) approved. They vow to evangelize the heathen.



Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1545–63 Council of Trent (Catholic Counter-Reformation) condemns:

- Indulgence sellers.
- Immorality of clergy.
- Nepotism (appointing relatives to church offices).
- Protestantism.

1549 *Book of Common Prayer* unites most English churches in a middle route between Catholicism and Protestantism.

1549 Jesuit Francis Xavier begins missionary efforts in the Indies and Japan; 100,000 converts attributed to him.

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1555 Queen Mary Tudor restores Roman Catholicism to England.

- She bans Protestant translations of the Bible and persecutes Protestants.

1560 Many Protestants in England flee to Geneva, Switzerland, where they print the Geneva Bible.

1560 John Knox's Reformed church begins in Scotland.



Queen Mary Tudor

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1558 Elizabeth I becomes queen of England and Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

- She aims for a compromise between Catholics and Protestants.
- In 1570, she is excommunicated by the pope, and in turn persecutes Catholics.



Queen Elizabeth I

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Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1562 Heidelberg Catechism is formed.

- It becomes the most widely held Protestant doctrinal statement for centuries.

1568 Bishops Bible, Church of England.

1577 Formula of Concord defines Lutheran beliefs.

1582/1609 Catholic scholar Gregory Martin translates the Rheims-Douay Bible from the Vulgate (Latin) while in exile in France.

1596 Council of Brest-Litovsk

- Most Orthodox in Kiev, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Polish Galatia (Uniat Churches) join communion with Roman Catholic church.

Sixteenth Century, 1500–1600

1598 Edict of Nantes

- Grants freedom of worship to French Protestants (Huguenots) after 30 years of persecution.
- In 1685 the Edict is revoked by Louis XIV.

1600 By the end of this century:

- Christianity spreads throughout Thailand, Cambodia, Macao, South Korea, South America and Africa through Catholic missionary efforts (monastic orders), conquest, and colonization.
- Few Protestant missionary efforts during the next 200 years.

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1601 Jesuit missionary and scholar, Matteo Ricci

- Evangelizes China by befriending intellectuals in the emperor's court in Peking.
- One of the first missionaries to adopt the dress and customs of the land.
- His methods are criticized by other Catholics as too tolerant toward the idolatrous Confucian custom of ancestor worship.



Matteo Ricci

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1603 Dutch Reformer Jacobus Arminius

- His studies of Romans lead him to doubt Calvin's doctrine of predestination.
- He sets forth doctrines that emphasize man's ability to choose Christ and Christ's death for all (Arminianism).

1605 Gunpowder Plot

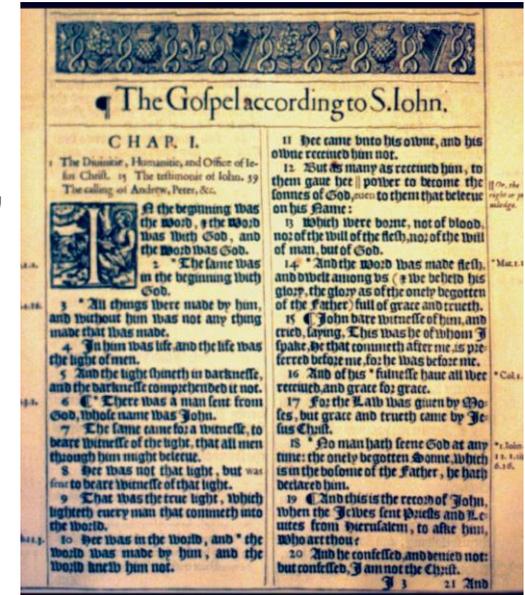
- Catholic fanatics attempt to kill England's King James I and blow up the houses of Parliament to seize the government. The plot fails.

1609 First Baptist church is founded in Amsterdam by John Smyth, who baptizes himself (by pouring).

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1611 King James Version Bible (KJV) published.

- King James I of England commissions 54 scholars to undertake a new Bible translation, completed six years later.
- The scholars use the Bishops Bible and Tyndale's Bible as well as available Greek and Hebrew manuscripts.
- After slow initial acceptance, this becomes the most popular Bible for the next 300 years.
- Known as the Authorized Version (AV) although it never received official royal authorization.



Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1618 Dutch Reformed Synod of Dort denounces Arminianism and responds to Arminius's five criticisms of Calvinism with five points (TULIP) of Calvinism:

- Total depravity
- Unconditional election
- Limited atonement
- Irresistibility of grace
- Perseverance of the saints

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Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1622 Creation of the Congregation de Propaganda Fide for Roman Catholic missionary efforts.

1620–30s Separatists reject the Church of England and sail to America on the *Mayflower*.

- Later, Puritans, who wish to cleanse the church arrive and start colonies.

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Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1629 Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople, Cyril Loukaris (Lucar), befriends Protestants and presents the earliest known copy of the Bible in Greek (*Codex Alexandrinus*, 5th century) to Charles I of England.

1630 Catholicism wiped out in Japan, thousands of martyrs.

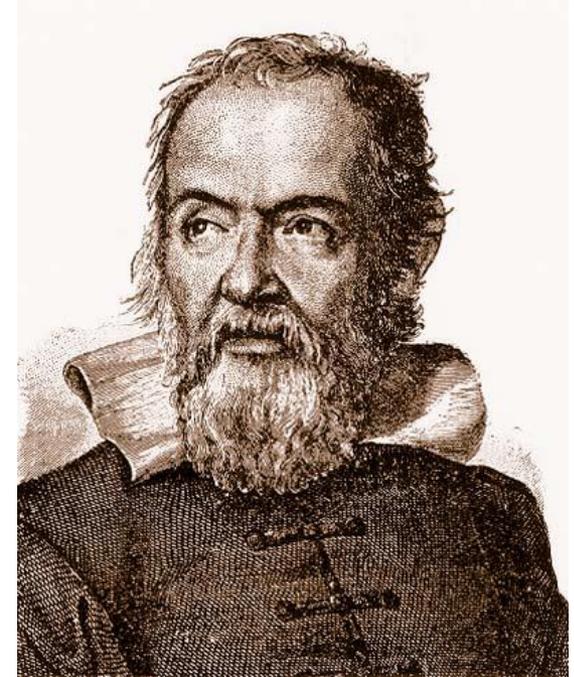
1630 Coptic and Syrian Orthodox churches decline.

1633 Sisters of Charity founded by Vincent de Paul.

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1642 Death of Galileo

- Scientist who agreed with Copernicus's theory that the earth moved around the sun.
- Censured by the church and kept from teaching his views because his proofs were inadequate.
- The case was closed in his favor in 1992.



Galileo Galilei

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1642 Civil War in England

- Power struggles between Charles I and the Parliament.
- Puritan member of Parliament, Oliver Cromwell, defeats the king's troops.
- Later as Lord Protector, Cromwell seeks tolerance for many Protestant groups.

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Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1646 Westminster Confession accepted as the statement of Presbyterianism in Scotland and England.

1647 Beginnings of the Quaker movement (Society of Friends) under preacher George Fox.

1648 End of the Thirty Years' War

- Catholics and Protestants given equal rights in most of the Holy Roman Empire.

1649 In America, Iroquois Indians destroy Huron Indians and their Jesuit mission.

Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1654 Conversion of Blaise Pascal, French mathematician and theologian.

1655 Waldensians break from Roman Catholicism and embrace Protestantism. Catholics launch persecutions against them.



Blaise Pascal

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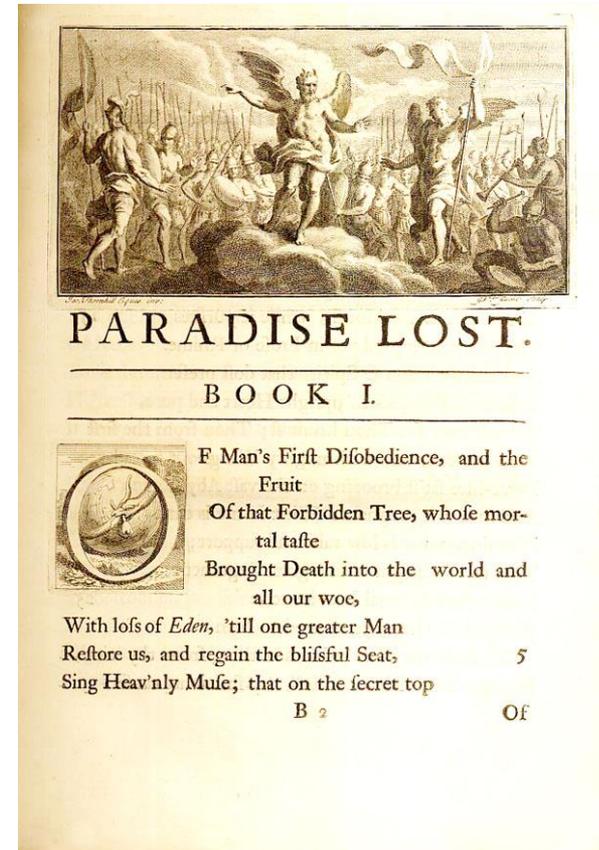
Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1667 John Milton writes
Paradise Lost.

1673 The British Test Act bans
Catholics from holding
public office unless they
deny certain doctrines.

1678 John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's
Progress* published.

1685 Edict of Nantes revoked.
Huguenots flee France.



Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1689 English Parliament issues Toleration Act

- This Act tolerates all Protestant groups, but not Roman Catholics.

1692 Chinese emperor officially allows Christianity.

- Ricci's initial 2,000 converts multiply to 300,000.

1698 First missionary societies formed by Protestants.

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Seventeenth Century, 1600–1700

1700 By the end of this century, Christianity spreads to Bermuda, Uruguay, Taiwan, Barbados, St. Kitts-Nevis, Laos, Montserrat, Antigua, Virgin Islands, Grenada, Anguilla, Belize, Gambia, Polynesia, Chad, Micronesia, Gabon, Bahamas, and Benin.

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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1704 Pope Clement XI condemns “Chinese Rites.”

- This is the mixture of Confucianism and ancestor worship with Christianity in China.
- Persecution against Christians begins; thousands are killed.



China's Philosopher Confucius, published in Latin by Jesuits, 1687

Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1705 Death of Philipp Jakob Spener

- Known as the “father of Pietism.”
- Pietism emphasizes feelings, a personal religious experience, and living a life of intense devotion.

1706 First Presbyterian church in America. It is governed by a board of elders (presbyters).

1707 Isaac Watts writes more than 600 hymns in his life.

1721 Peter the Great appoints the Holy Synod to head the Russian Orthodox church, putting the church under state control until 1917.

Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1722 Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf welcomes fleeing Hussites from Moravia (Moravian Brethren) to live on his lands.

- The pietistic colony that forms, “Herrnhut,” sends out missionaries to Africa, India, and the Americas.

1724 Greek Catholic (Melkite) church established in what is now Lebanon.

- Primarily located in Ethiopia and parts of Egypt, the Melkite church had accepted the Council of Chalcedon in 451, rejecting monophysitism.

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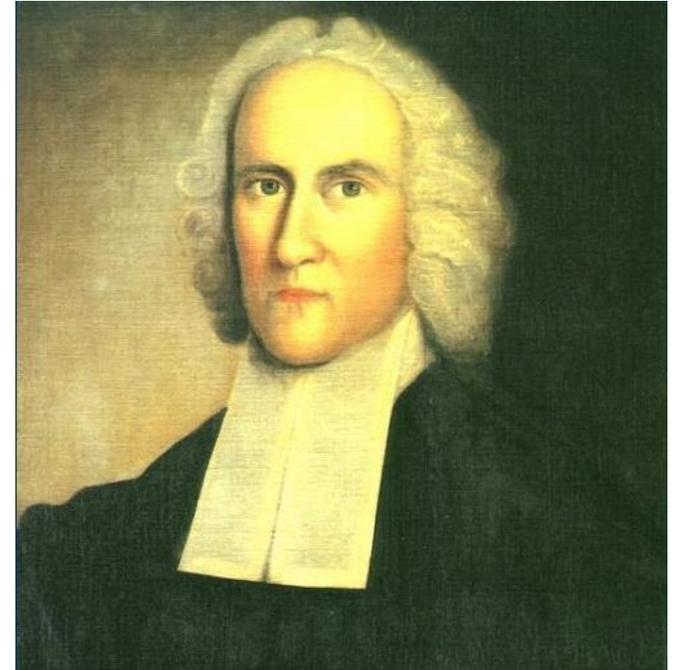
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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1729 Jonathan Edwards, one of America's greatest preachers and theologians, preaches in Northampton.



Jonathan Edwards

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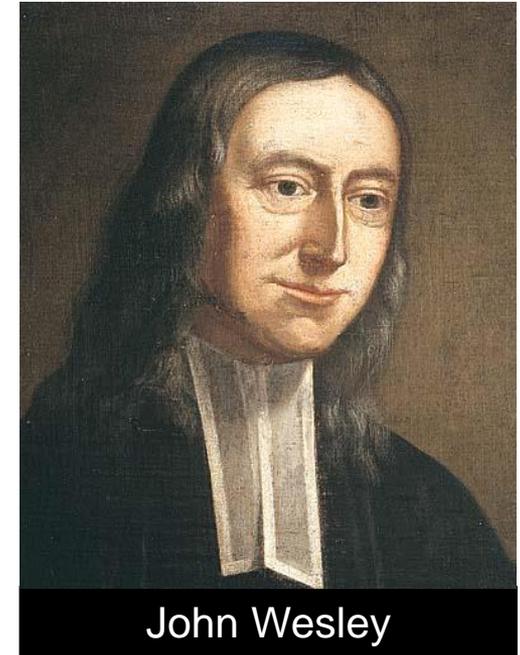
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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1738 John and Charles Wesley

- Converted through contact with Moravians.
- Their emphasis on doing specific spiritual disciplines each week is derided as “methodist.”
- Eventually the term “Methodist” is accepted with pride, and spreads rapidly in the Church of England.
- John travels throughout Britain on horseback, giving 40,000 sermons during his lifetime.
- Charles pens over 6,000 hymns.



John Wesley

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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1738 Freemasonry condemned by Pope Clement XII (and later popes).

1739 George Whitefield, Anglican preacher, gives open-air evangelistic messages.

1740 The Great Awakening

- Led by George Whitefield in New England.
- Revival spreads throughout colonial America.

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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

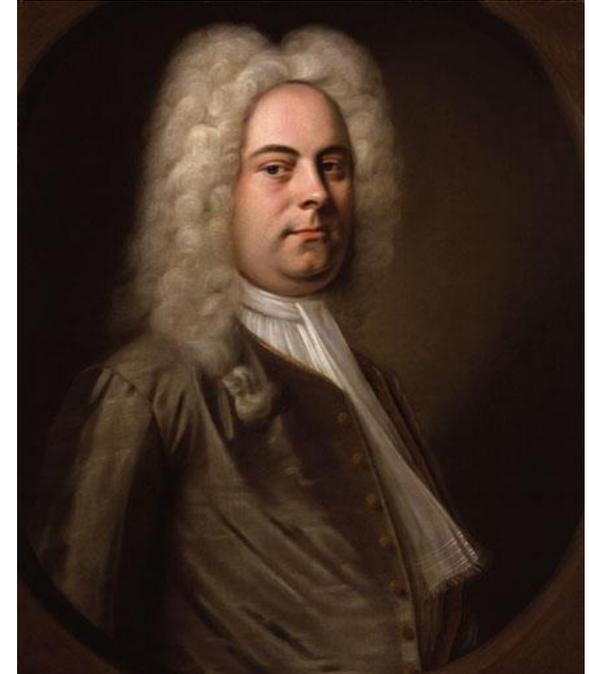
1741–2 George Frideric Handel writes the *Messiah*.

1759 Powerful Jesuit order suppressed.

- Dissolved by the pope in 1773.
- In 1814, Jesuits are reestablished.

1764 John Newton, former slave trader converts, writes “Amazing Grace.”

1769 Serra founds the first of nine missions in California.



George Frideric Handel

Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1771 John Wesley sends Francis Asbury to preach in America.

- The American Methodist Church becomes a separate organization in 1784.

1773 First independent Black Baptist church is established in America.

1780 “Sunday school” is developed in England by Robert Raikes out of concern for urban poor.

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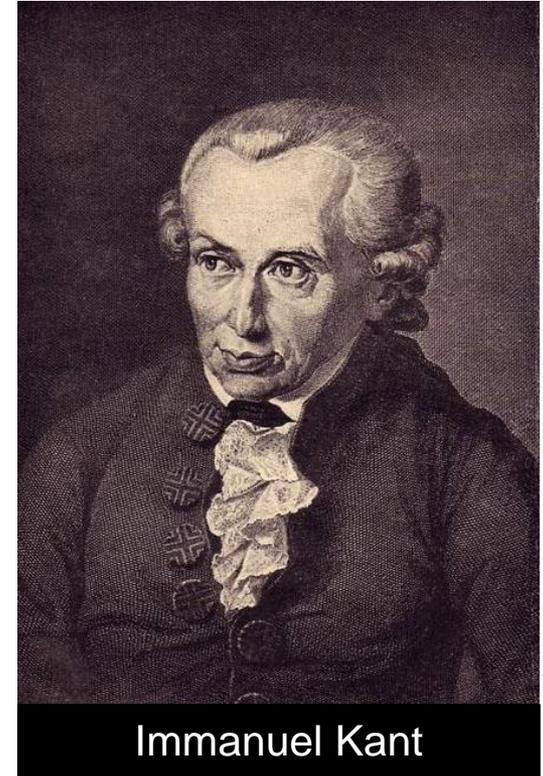
Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1781 Immanuel Kant writes
Critique of Pure Reason.

1784 “Conference of Methodists”
forms a group within the
Church of England.

1784 The Russian Orthodox send
missionaries to Alaska.

1785 Korean Christianity expands,
then is exterminated.



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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1789 The French Revolution

- Results in a new government and a new religion hostile to Christianity, “The Cult of Reason.”
- Thousands of Catholic and some Protestant clergy are executed.
- Ten years later the French invade Rome, and take Pope Pius VI prisoner to France.

1792 Second Great Awakening

- Revival sweeps New England for 30 years.

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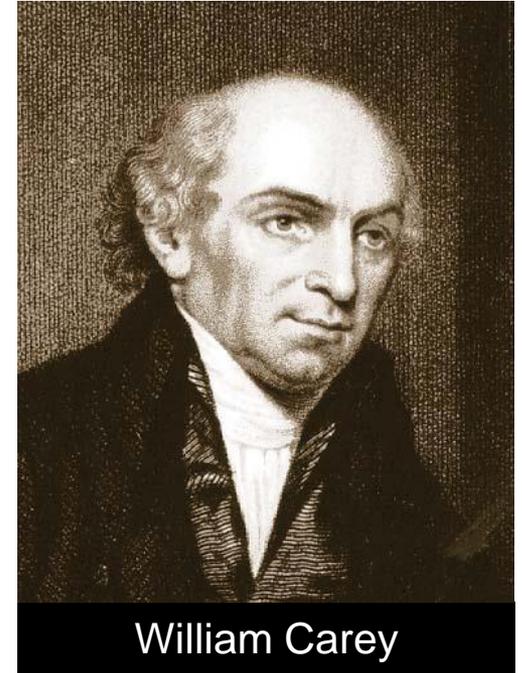
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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1793 William and Dorothy Carey of England sail for India.

- Carey writes a significant work on the Great Commission and offers strategies for fulfilling it.
- Yet during this time many Protestants believe that “when God pleases to convert the heathen, he’ll do it without consulting you or me.”
- Carey is often called the father of modern Protestant missions.



William Carey

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Eighteenth Century, 1700–1800

1797 Methodists separate from the Church of England to form a distinct church.

1795 Many American churches, including Baptists, divide over the issue of slavery.

1800 By the end of this century:

- Slave trade from Africa greatly increases.
- The Baptist Missionary Society and other missionary societies are formed.
- Christianity spreads to Nepal, Seychelles, Falkland Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, Pitcairn Island, Sierra Leone, Norfolk Island, and Tonga.

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1801 French leader Napoleon Bonaparte reconciles with new pope temporarily (Concordat of 1801).

1804 Napoleon makes himself emperor. France reinvades Rome and takes Pius VII to France as a prisoner.



Napoleon Bonaparte

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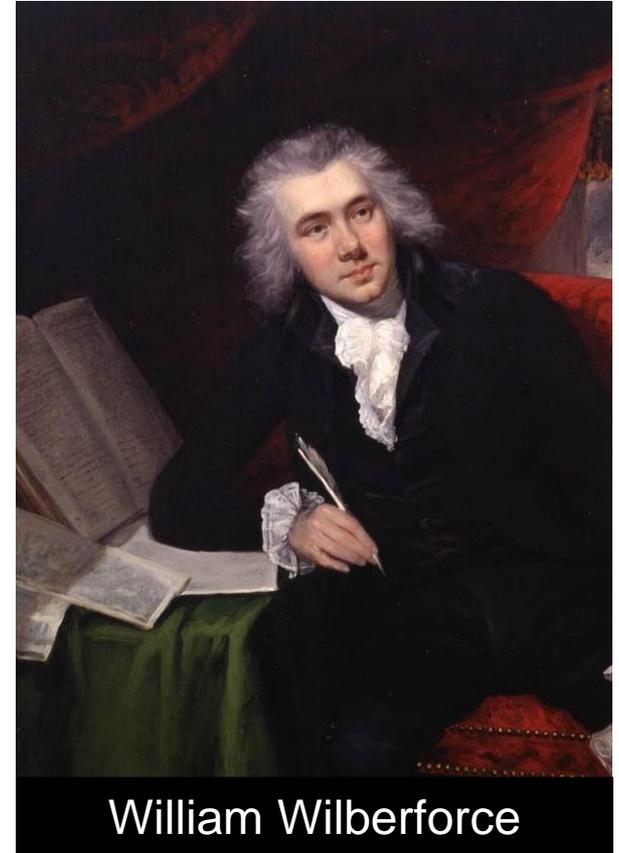
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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1807 William Wilberforce leads Parliament to abolish slave trade in the British Empire.

- Member of Parliament and devout Christian.
- He and other Christians also address social problems including exploitative child labor, illiteracy, prison reform, education, and reinstating civil rights for Jews and Catholics.



William Wilberforce

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1811 Thomas and Alexander Campbell's Restoration Movement gives rise to the Disciples of Christ and some Church of Christ groups.

1813 Adoniram and Ann Judson arrive in Burma.

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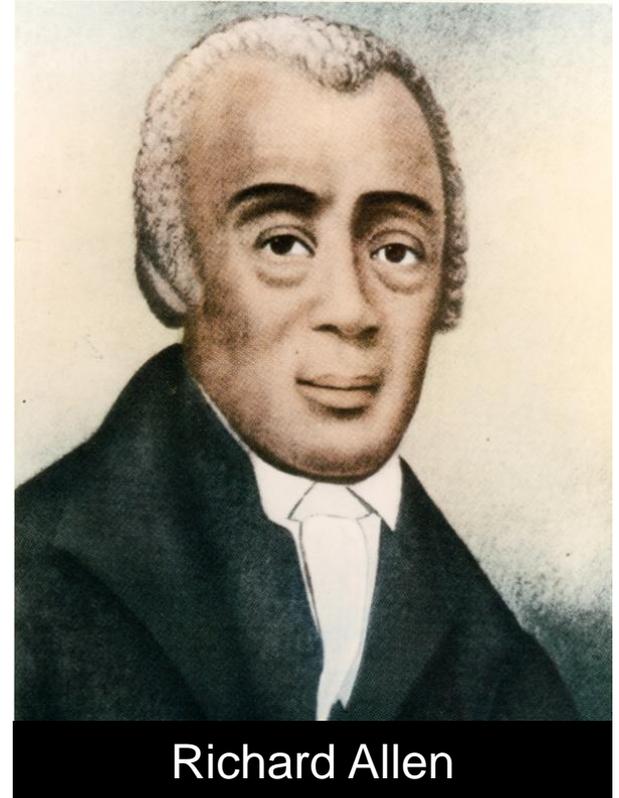
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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1816 The African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) is founded by Richard Allen, a free Black man in Philadelphia.

1821 The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church forms.



Richard Allen

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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1822 Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith (reestablished by Pope Pius VII) spurs Roman Catholic missionary effort in:

- Ethiopia, Mongolia, and North Africa by Charles Lavigerie, founder of the White Fathers.
- Hawaii by Fr. Damien who works with lepers for 16 years and dies of leprosy.

1827 John Nelson Darby of the Plymouth Brethren creates the first dispensational system which influences Cyrus Scofield's teachings of the 1900s.

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

- 1830** Friedrich Schleiermacher, the “Father of Liberal Protestant Theology,” teaches that God is within human reality, not above it.
- 1830** Joseph Smith, Jr., founds the Church of the Latter-day Saints (Mormonism), which denies the Trinity.
- 1833** Oxford Movement calls the Church of England to return to “high church” practices and doctrines.
- 1835** Charles Finney leads revival in New York.

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1836 George Müller opens faith orphanage in England.

1840 David Livingstone, missionary, goes to Africa.

1844 The YMCA and YWCA (Young Men's/Women's Christian Association) form in London during the Industrial Revolution to introduce Christianity to new, large populations in urban areas.

1844 Søren Kierkegaard's *Philosophical Fragments*.

1844 William Miller begins Adventist Movement.

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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1854 Charles H. Spurgeon becomes pastor of the largest Baptist congregation in London.

- He draws such great crowds that a new church is built for him.

1854 Immaculate Conception dogma is pronounced by Pope Pius IX.

- It states that Mary, Jesus' mother, was free from original sin, a belief debated since the Middle Ages.



Charles H. Spurgeon

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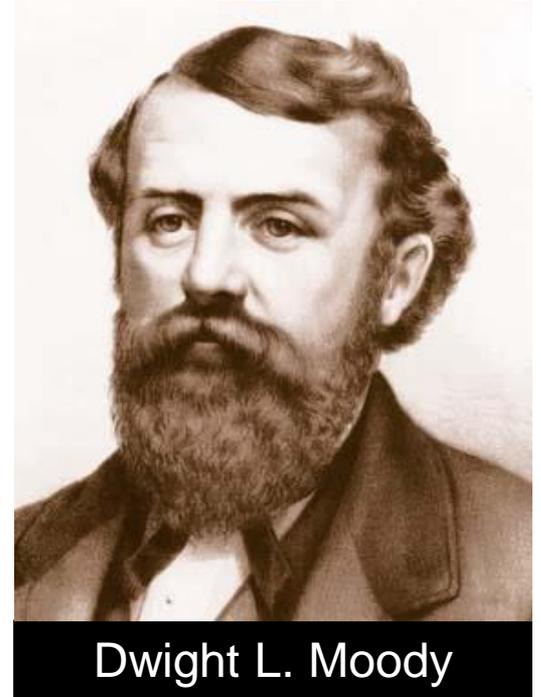
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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1855 Dwight L. Moody converts to Christianity.

- Shoe salesman in Chicago who works with the YMCA.
- He develops a simple message of repentance, salvation, and the work of the Holy Spirit (“higher life”).
- Moody, Finney, and singer Ira Sankey hold revival meetings in urban areas, marking the beginning of “revivalism.”



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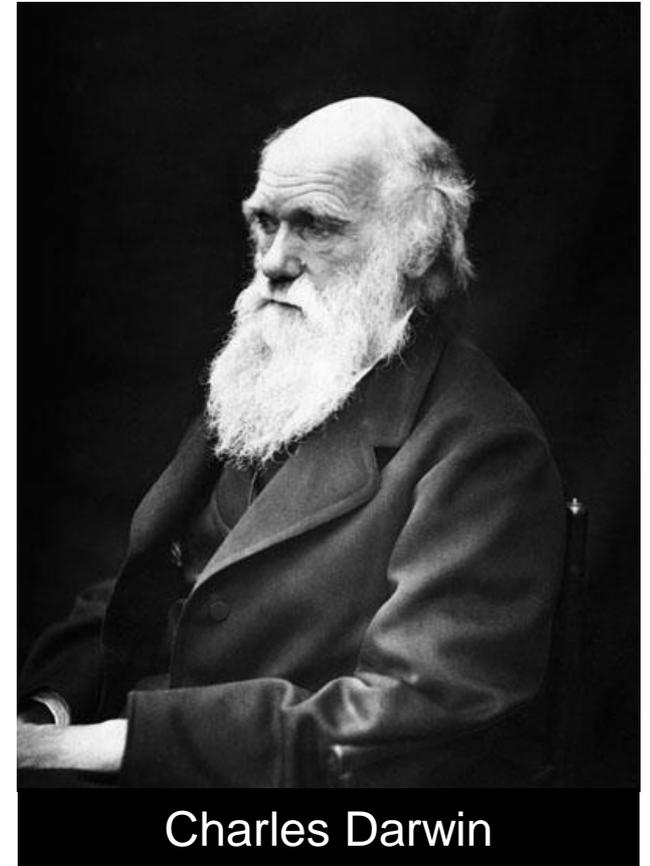
Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1859 Charles Darwin writes *Origin of the Species*.

1863 Seventh-Day Adventist Church founded.

1864 Catholics in Korea persecuted by revolutionaries.

1865 Hudson Taylor begins China Inland Mission.



Charles Darwin

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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1865 After the U.S. Civil War, many former slaves join with other African-Americans to start denominations: *Black Baptists* and *Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (CME)*.

1870 First Vatican Council on faith and the church declares papal infallibility dogma.

1875–9 Christian Science and Jehovah's Witnesses founded. Both deny Christ's deity.

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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1878 The Salvation Army is founded by William Booth and his wife Catherine (both Methodist preachers) to minister to the poor.



Catherine Booth



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Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1880 Northfield Conferences

- Nondenominational conferences led by Dwight L. Moody emphasizing holiness, dispensationalism, missions, evangelism, and the Spirit-filled life.

1887 B.B. Warfield, Reformed theologian at Princeton.



B.B. Warfield

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1895 The five “fundamentals” of the faith are set forth by the Evangelical Alliance to define the line between fundamentalism and modernism (radical liberalism):

- Inerrancy of Scripture
- Deity of Jesus
- Virgin birth
- Jesus’ death providing substitutionary atonement
- Jesus’ physical resurrection and imminent return

Nineteenth Century, 1800–1900

1895 Turks massacre 300,000 Armenian Christians.

1900 By the end of this century:

- Many revivalists are preaching premillennialism.
- Christianity spreads to Botswana, Madagascar, Djibouti, Somalia, Zambia, Rwanda, Liberia, Samoa, Transkei, New Hebrides, Lesotho, Uganda, Hong Kong, and Pacific Islands.

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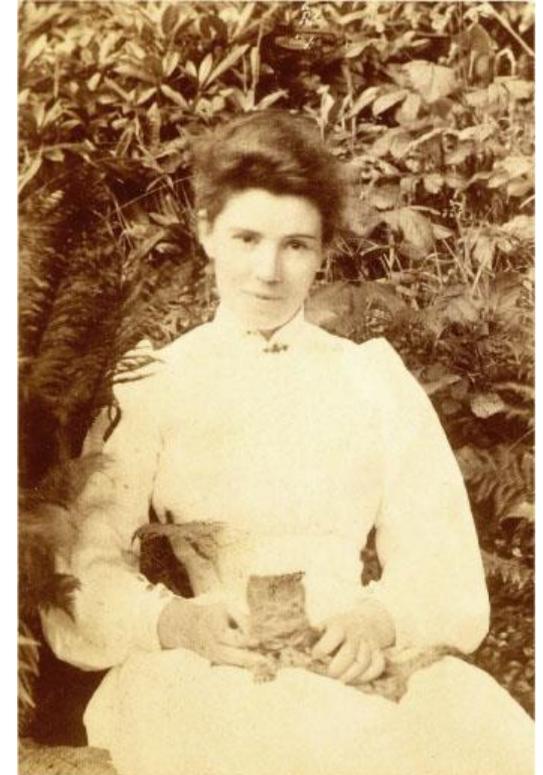
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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1901 Amy Carmichael, Irish missionary to India for 53 years, starts work at Donavur for children in danger.

1901 Boxer Rebellion; Chinese kill missionaries and converts.

1904–05 Welsh Revival



Amy Carmichael

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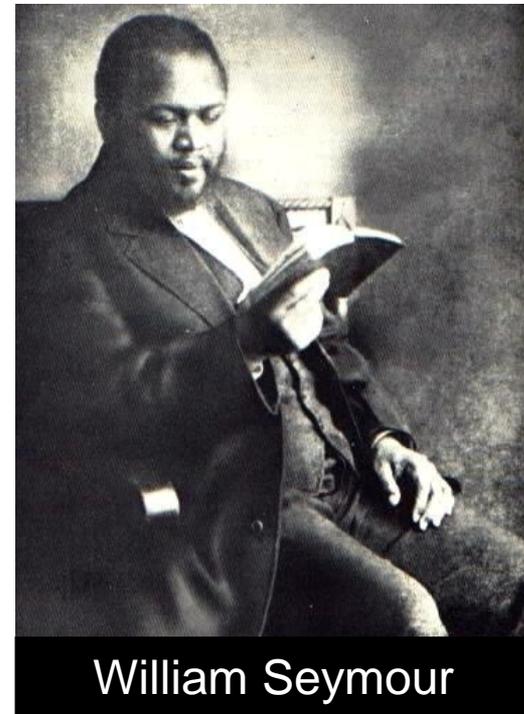
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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1906 Beginnings of Pentecostalism

- Azusa Street revivals, led by William Seymour, emphasize living a holy life demonstrated by Spirit baptism and evidenced by speaking in tongues.
- In 1914 the Assemblies of God, and later the Church of God and Four-Square Gospel, form in the wake of the Azusa Street revivals.



William Seymour

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1906 Albert Schweitzer writes *Quest for the Historical Jesus*.

1909 Scofield Bible published.

- Cyrus Scofield links verses from various books of the Bible to explain God's actions in human history, fitting history into seven spiritual eras (dispensations).

1917 Communism spreads anti-religious ideology through Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

- Christianity is eradicated from education and worship.
- Millions are imprisoned and killed.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1919 Karl Barth writes *Commentary on Romans*.

- Birth of neo-orthodoxy, which challenges liberalism with an emphasis on the Bible and on God's transcendence.

1925 Scopes “Monkey” Trial (State of Tennessee v. John Scopes) on the teaching of evolution.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1930–1950 Many Protestant denominations split.

- Divisions in the Presbyterian Church in the USA and the Northern Baptist Convention.
- Controversial issues include modernism, higher life, and dispensationalism.

1934 Wycliffe Bible Translators is founded by Cam Townsend.

- Wycliffe and other organizations translate the Bible into other languages.

1941 Rudolf Bultmann leads movement to “demythologize” the Bible.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1933–45 Rise of Nazism, leading to World War II and the death of 6 million Jews and millions of Christians.

1945 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor and a leader of the underground church in Germany, is hanged for plotting to kill Adolph Hitler.

1945 Franciscan priest Maxmilian Kolbe, prisoner in Auschwitz, volunteers to die and is executed in place of a fellow prisoner.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1948 Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest known copies of portions of the Bible (c. 100 BC).

1948 Modern political State of Israel established.



Scroll Jars

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1949 Organized Christian churches exist in every country in the world except for Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, and Tibet.

1949 World Council of Churches formed by representatives from all major Christian denominations except the Roman Catholics

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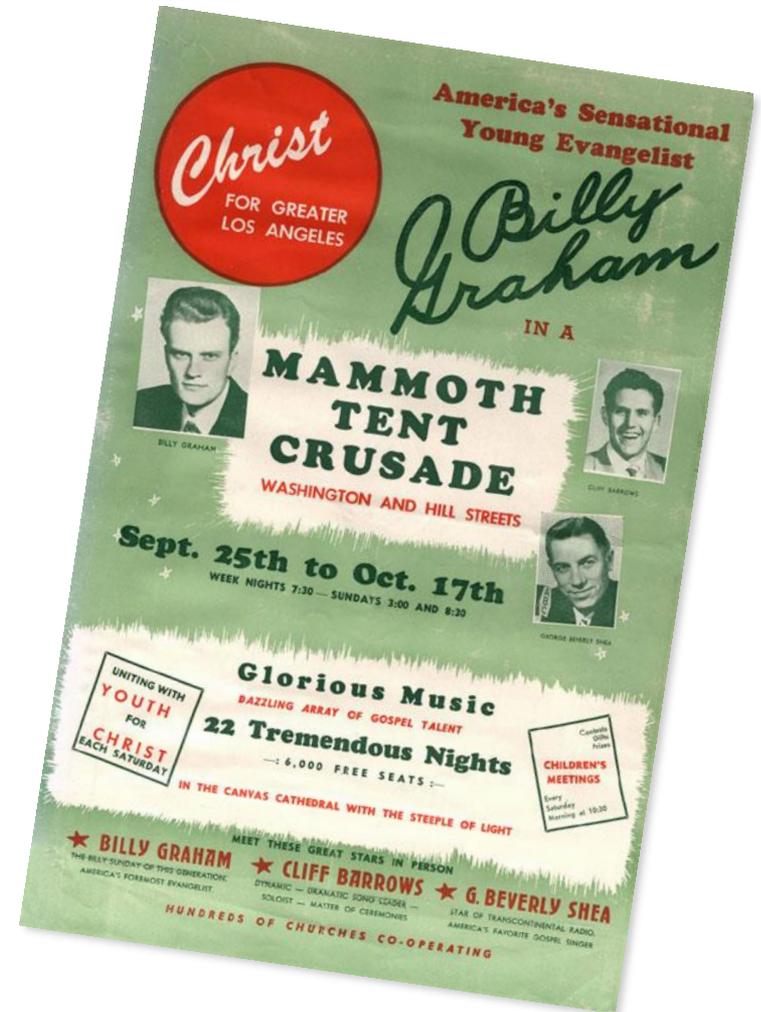
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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1949 Billy Graham's Los Angeles Crusade launches his ministry.

- Over the next five decades, he preaches to more people than any evangelist in history.



Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1954 Scientology founded by L. Ron Hubbard in California.

1954 Unification Church founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon in Korea.

- Both Scientology and Unification Church deny the Trinity and deity of Jesus.

1950–1960s Explosion of Christianity in newly independent African countries.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1962 Second Vatican Council

- Accepts Protestants as “separated brethren.”
- Encourages translating and reading the Bible.
- Revokes the excommunication of the Great Schism (1054).
- Upholds papal infallibility.
- Encourages services (the Mass) to be held in each common language rather than Latin.



The Vatican

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1963 C.S. Lewis, author of *Mere Christianity*, dies.

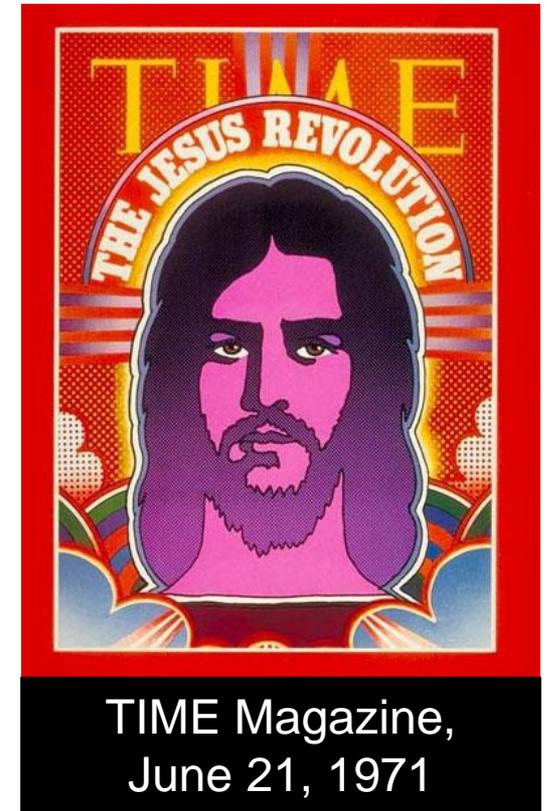
1964 Baptist minister Martin Luther King, Jr., receives Nobel Peace Prize for civil rights efforts.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1970s Major national and international crusades and movements begin:

- “Jesus Movement” in the USA
- “Here’s Life” crusade by Campus Crusade (worldwide)
- Charismatic movement
- Latin America (Luis Palau)
- Billy Graham preaches the largest crusade, 1.1 million people in Seoul, Korea in 1973.



Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

1997 Death of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Catholic nun, who spent 50 years caring for the poor and dying.

1997 Pope John Paul II apologizes for the Roman Catholic Church's lack of moral leadership during the Holocaust.

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Twentieth Century, 1900–2000

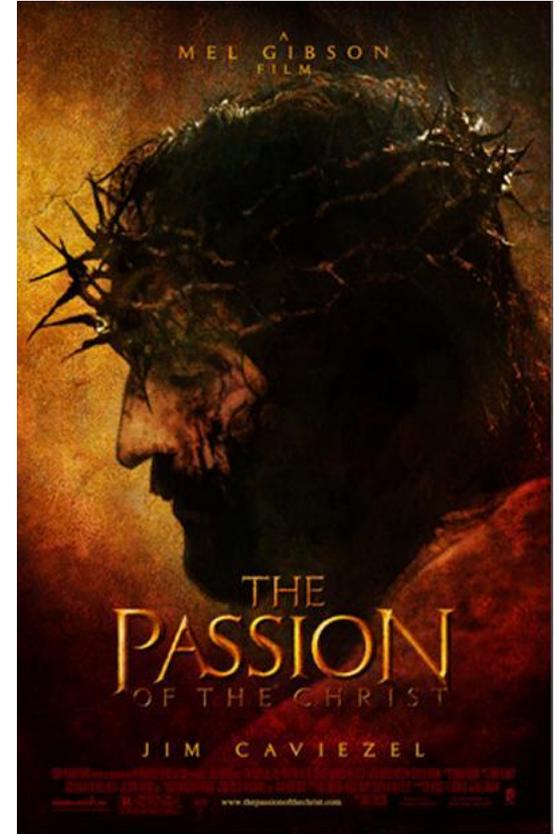
2000 By the end of this century:

- Approximately 200 million Christians in Africa.
- In 1914 there were portions of the Bible in 600 languages; by 1980 the Bible is translated into more than 1,600 languages.
- The *Jesus Film*, an evangelistic film, is seen by more than 5 billion people since 1979.
- Largest church in the world is in Seoul, Korea.
- Christianity spreads to the Antarctic.

Twenty-First Century, 2000–

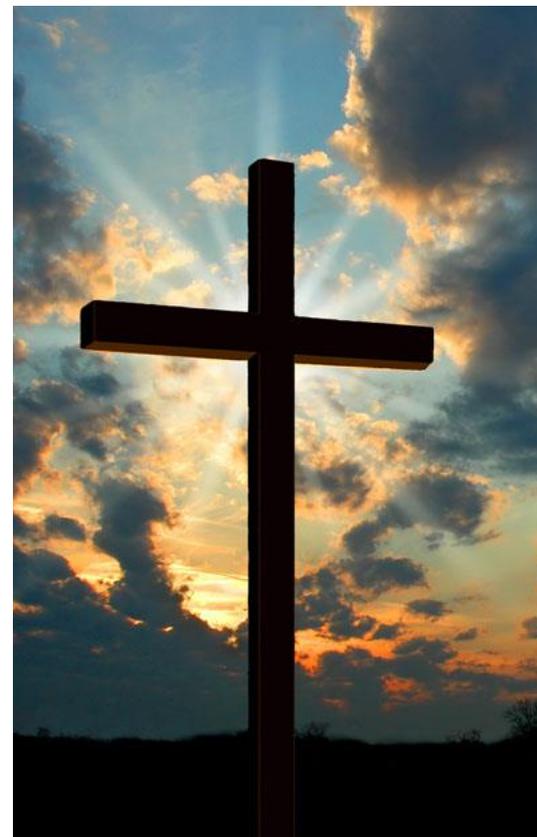
2004 *The Passion of the Christ* movie released. Depicts Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

2005 Pope John Paul II dies. Succeeded by Pope Benedict XVI.



Twenty-First Century, 2000–

- Persecution of Christians continues around the world. The most severe persecution is in North Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Iran.
- There are still 2,000 people groups who have no portion of the Bible in their own language.



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Christian History Time Line PowerPoint®

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